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Celebrity pg 45

Lindsay crying over spilled milk?

Hairdressers aim to wash away ban

RIGHTS Gaza's male hairdressers have filed a complaint with a human rights group over a Hamas edict banning them from cutting women's hair.

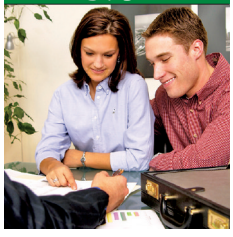
Gaza's Islamic militant rulers announced the ban last week. It affects only five coiffeurs, but highlights Hamas' increasing attempts to impose a strict version of Islam in the already conservative Palestinian territory.

Male hairdressers are in demand among women in Gaza's upper middle class since Islamic custom bars women from exposing their hair to strangers.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News on the Move
What's this barcode for?
Learn how to scan the barcode with the instructions at the top of pg 3

Lending pg 13



How to pick a mortgage

Entertainment pg 45

Music Week looks east

On the web
Visit metronews.ca for news updates

Scrabble **What should we do with this Q and Z?**

ROGER CULLMAN/FOR METRO TORONTO

Swansea Public School students Miranda Branyiczky, 8, left, and Zosia Gryz, 9, team up yesterday during the second annual Toronto School Scrabble Championships at Bessborough Public School. Grade 4-8 students from 16 schools across Toronto participated.

Changing faces

Whites to become visible minority by 2031: Report

Whites will become the visible minority population in Toronto within 30 years, according to projections released yesterday by Statistics Canada that suggest the face of Canada will change dramatically in its biggest cities.

About 63 per cent of Toronto's population would be from visible minority groups by 2031, compared to 43 per cent counted in 2006.

14.4 Across Canada, the visible minority figure is projected at between 29 and 32 per cent of the population by 2031, or 14.4 million people.

That compares to a projected 59 per cent of visible minorities projected for Vancouver by 2031, and 31 per cent projected for Montreal.

Smaller communities are not expected to experience the same population change as immigrants and fertility rates among certain groups significantly alter the complexion of Canada's urban centres.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MORE COVERAGE, PAGE 8

GG visits Haitian roots

TRIP The bustling streets of a Haitian coastal city were brought to a halt yesterday as native daughter Michaëlle Jean returned for a visit to her ancestral hometown.

Jean wound up her emotional two-day trip to Haiti by visiting a place she loved as a child — parts of it now crushed by a catastrophic earthquake estimated to have killed more than 200,000 people.

Michaëlle Jean

The Governor General's walk through the crowded streets of Jacmel attracted swarms of onlookers; their jostling led the RCMP to block off intersections while her entourage struggled to squeeze through a sea of pedestrians.

Jean stopped by a late relative's house and said hello to the new residents as they went about their daily chores out front.

Women selling produce walked by with bowls of fruits and vegetables balancing on their heads. Chickens clucked on the street corners.

Taking it all in was Jean, back in the place where she spent summers as a child, visiting her mother's family. She stayed at the home of a great aunt who sold beans and cooking oil on these streets.

"I feel like I'm floating," Jean said at the end of her walk. "Like I've got wings."

It marked another jarring transition on what, for Jean, was a two-day emotional roller-coaster.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Oakville Place
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ORANGEVILLE
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Oshawa Centre
PICKERING
Pickering Town Centre
RICHMOND HILL
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Hillcrest Mall
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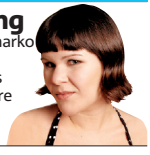
Tomorrow's Metro

Relating
Sofi Papamarko on what compels us to overshare online



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WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Video Newcomers to Canada explain what drew them to the country's largest cities at **metronews.ca/canada**

Blogs TFC's director of business operations joins It's Called Football to discuss their bid to host the MLS Cup and paperless ticketing at BMO Field.

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Cops tuning public out

Encrypted radios on the radar

Eavesdropping on police radio will soon be a thing of the past in Toronto as the force moves to launch a $35-million encrypted system that blocks out the public — including tow truck drivers, reporters and others with a burning desire to know what's happening out there.

Though new to many cities, radio encryption has been employed for decades around the globe, spurred on by post-9/11 security concerns. It's used by the U.S. Secret Service, CIA and Homeland Security, as well as some state and local forces, though not by New York City police.

Although officials acknowledge encryption is coming to Toronto — as soon as the G20 summit in June — nobody wants to discuss specifics, citing "security concerns."

"It's about public safety, officer safety, operational security and integrity," said Mark Pugash, director of public information for Toronto police. "When you consider how accessible the information is and the sensitivity of much of what we do, then you have to take this very seriously."

> **"It's about public safety, officer safety, operational security and integrity."**
> Mark Pugash

Pugash didn't give a target date, and the operating budget doesn't itemize the cost.

However, it's coming in at a time when there is extraordinary pressure to cut costs. The police services board voted Monday not to trim $5.9 million from the $892.2-million operating budget, as recommended by a review committee. Chief Bill Blair said it would be "irresponsible" and would mean 258 fewer officers on the street.

Board chair Alok Mukherjee describes encryption as a "long-term capital expense" the city will benefit from introducing now because Ottawa will pay half the cost under its commitments toward security for the G20 summit. Though costs have dropped drastically over the past decade, one encrypted radio costs $5,000, according to a Motorola dealer. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

CMW In the Thicke of it

TODD GILLIS/PHOTOLIVE.COM/FOR METRO TORONTO

Robin Thicke kicks off Canadian Music Week yesterday looking dapper in his tuxedo as he stops off at MTV Canada. Thicke will be performing at the ACC tonight along with Alicia Keys.
More coverage on Canadian Music Week, page 45.

Noxious spray forces evacuation of school

INCIDENT A North York high school was evacuated yesterday after a pepper spray-like substance was released in one of the school's hallways.

According to Paul Edwards, principal of Westview Centennial Secondary near Finch Avenue and Highway 400, several students came to his office just before 10:30 a.m. complaining that something in the air was bothering them.

After some investigation, school officials and police discovered that someone had released a pepper spray-like substance into the air.

School officials evacuated the building while the fire department used large fans to air out the building.

Seven students were treated by paramedics, with four of them sent to hospital with minor respiratory illnesses.

Students were able to return to the building after about an hour, said Staff Sgt. Guy Courvoisier, but one hallway remained closed.

Police are talking to students and trying to piece together what led to the incident.

Toronto District School Board spokesperson Kelly Baker said this is the first incident she can recall where pepper spray has been released in a Toronto school. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

UTILITY Toronto Hydro's profits drifted slightly lower last year, but a financial expert says it remains an attractive proposition should a new mayor and council decide to put it on the market. The company, owned by the City of Toronto, reported net profit of $42.8 million from continuing operations for last year, down from $46 million in 2008. The 2008 figure excludes the bonus Toronto Hydro reaped after selling its telecom business for $200 million. Mayoral candidates have mused about the possibility of selling Toronto Hydro and using the proceeds to pay down Toronto's debt. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Cheap gas

Canadian Tire is offering a five-cent per litre gas discount at the grand opening of its gas bar at Sheppard and Leslie today from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Common denominator

Third of first-year students lacking math skills: Study

A new study shows one-third of first-year college students in Ontario are in danger of not graduating because they flunked or barely scraped through their math course.

Researchers at Seneca College who conducted the study say that equates to about 10,000 students.

About 67 per cent of students achieved good grades — As, Bs, and Cs — slightly better than last year. The governing Liberals are focusing on post-secondary education as a way to drag Ontario out of a major economic recession.

Monday's throne speech promised to increase the portion of the province's population that has a university or college education to 70 per cent from 62 per cent.

The government also promised to create 20,000 new post-secondary spaces this fall and increase the number of foreign students to about 54,000 from 37,000. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Focus group

- The Seneca study focused on math results of 30,000 college students, but also examined the records of almost 80,000 students who enrolled in college in the fall of 2008.

Boy, 13, charged in violent home invasion

PICKERING A 13-year-old boy is one of two youths charged after a violent home invasion in Pickering Friday night.

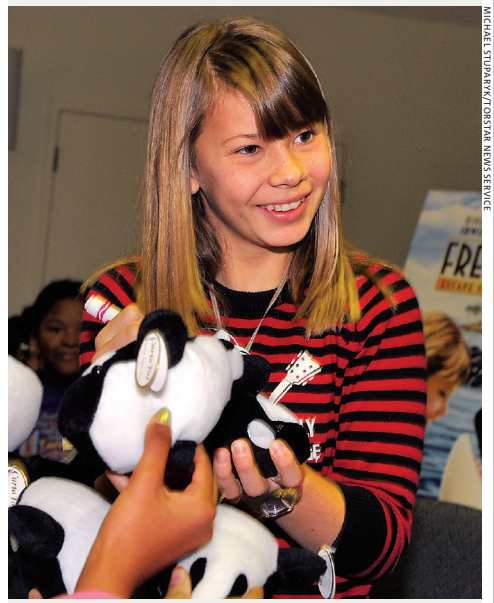
According to police, five males dressed in black clothing and bandanas over their faces forced their way into a Memory Lane home.

One of the boys pointed a gun at the occupants, demanding cash and drugs. The occupants were all forced to the ground, with one male occupant pushed and kicked repeatedly.

One of the occupants managed to call police on his cellphone, while at the same time several neighbours who had witnessed the forced entry also reported the incident to police.

The 13-year-old and a 16-year-old are charged with robbery and possession of a weapon. The remaining three suspects are still at large. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Freeing Willy **At the zoo**



MICHAEL STUPARYK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Bindi Irwin, daughter of Crocodile Hunter Steve Irwin, signs stuffed whales yesterday at the Metro Zoo in support of Free Willy: Escape From Pirate's Cove. Students From Bendale Junior Public School watched a screening of the film with Bindi.

Vaccinating kids key to community health, study finds

SCIENCE A new study shows that vaccinating kids against flu can substantially reduce infections in a community.

The research shows that giving flu shots to a significant portion of kids aged three to 15 cut the risk of catching flu by 60 per cent, which for adults is about as good as getting a flu shot themselves.

The research team did the study in Hutterite communities in Western Canada. Some of the colonies were randomly assigned to have their children vaccinated against flu or given a shot against hepatitis A.

The idea that stopping the spread of flu among kids would benefit adults, too, has been around for awhile, but this is the first time the question has been studied in a randomized controlled trial, the most reliable way to generate scientific proof. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Canada Quay Service Canada Centre Closing

The Canada Quay Service Canada Centre will be closing due to site redevelopment of Toronto's Harbourfront Centre. The new development will be built on the existing site of the Canada Quay Service Canada Centre at 235 Queens Quay West, Toronto, Ontario.

Construction is set to begin in March 2010. The **Canada Quay Service Canada Centre will be closing at 12:00 p.m. on March 12, 2010**. While looking for a new location, in-person service will be available at the locations listed below.

Toronto Gerrard Square Service Canada Centre
Gerrard Square, 2nd Floor, Unit DD10/11
1000 Gerrard Street East, Toronto, Ontario
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Monday to Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Toronto Dufferin Mall Service Canada Centre
Dufferin Mall, Suite 0001
900 Dufferin Street, Toronto, Ontario
Hours of service:
Monday from 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday to Thursday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
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Toronto Centre Service Canada Centre
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Yonge-Eglinton development OK'd

North York Community Council yesterday approved a proposal to build a glass-fronted shopping plaza at the northwest corner of Yonge Street and Eglinton Avenue. The site is currently a public square. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Fallen officers remembered

Ontario's premier described two police officers who died in the line of duty in the province in a single week as heroes who, like each of their colleagues, is "owed our gratitude, respect and support."

"They're the ones who keep us safe," Dalton McGuinty told hundreds of police officers from across Canada and some from the U.S. who gathered yesterday in Mississauga to pay their respects to a fallen colleague.

"They're the first to respond to a crisis and the last to leave the scene."

Const. Artem (James) Ochakovsky died last Tuesday after a car crash in Brampton — the first Peel officer to die in the line of duty in 25 years.

A provincial police officer, Const. Vu Pham, was shot and killed Monday after pulling over a vehicle in a rural area.

McGuinty called both men heroes. "These men are heroes every day of their lives, to their communities, to their fellow officers and most of all to their families," he said.

Also in the congregation were firefighters, paramedics, other emergency officials, border guards and other uniformed personnel.

"On top of what's happened to the Peel officer and so closely behind one of our own officers is killed on duty, it's very tragic," provincial police Insp. Dave Lee said outside the funeral.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

> **"These men are heroes every day of their lives."**
> Premier Dalton McGuinty

Clean Ontario's water first, NDP urges government

POLITICS An opposition leader says the governing Ontario Liberals need to clean up their own act on drinking water before embarking on an ambitious plan to develop clean-water technology.

Andrea Horwath

NDP Leader Andrea Horwath says the government is talking about exporting clean-water technology when many Ontario communities are under boil-water advisories.

She says the government should ensure that all residents have clean water to drink before it focuses on selling clean-water technology to the rest of the world.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Body of missing Hamilton woman located

The body of a 31-year-old Hamilton woman reported missing last weekend has been found in the city's east Mountain area. Police say the body of Candace Barton was found with her minivan on a walking trail early Monday. There is no information yet on how Barton died. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

Suspect ID'd in shooting that killed cop

Ontario's Special Investigations Unit has identified the man involved in a confrontation that saw an Ontario police officer shot and killed as Fred Preston, 70, of Burk's Falls. The SUI says Preston remains in critical condition at Victoria Hospital in London. CTV reports the 70-year-old is the police suspect and was shot eight times during a gunfight with officers. Ontario Provincial Police Const. Vu Pham, left, was shot and killed Monday after pulling over a vehicle in a rural area northwest of London. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Child-care tax break criticized

BUDGET The federal budget's changes to the tax treatment of the $100-per-month Universal Child Care Benefit to help single-parent families "will create new inequities," says an Ottawa-based think-tank.

Critics of the benefit have long complained that it is subject to income tax. Last week's budget acknowledged that, until now, single parents could end up paying more tax on their $100-per-child benefit than a two-parent family with the same income.

The budget addressed the problem by allowing single-parent families to claim the payments as income for their dependents. But this means two-parent families will pay more taxes on their benefit than single-parent families of the same income.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quebec woman barred from class for 2nd time over niqab

CONTROVERSY A Muslim woman in Quebec has been kicked out of a language course for the second time because of her refusal to remove a religious face covering.

The Egyptian immigrant made headlines last week when it was revealed provincial Immigration Department officials expelled her from a government-sponsored French class several months ago after she refused to take off her niqab.

Known only as Naema in Quebec media, she had since enrolled in another government-sponsored French class, this time at a community centre for immigrants in Montreal.

But almost as soon as the Quebec government got word that she was attending class in her niqab, it confronted her again yesterday, forcing her to make the same decision she made in November.

As she did then, Naema chose her religion instead of learning French on the Quebec government's terms.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

PAGEANT An Alberta government backbencher is floating the idea of the province holding an international beauty pageant to pull in tourism dollars from around the world along with tiaras, high heels and sparkly gowns. This has prompted women's rights advocates to say they're ready for a fight if the idea is taken any further. THE CANADIAN PRESS

CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

An unidentified man walks through the streets of Toronto's Little India district earlier this week. Statistics Canada projects that by the year 2031, about one-third of Canada's population — up to 14.4 million people — will be a visible minority.

Diversity growing

Third of Canadians will be minority by 2031: Report

The proportion of visible minorities in Canada, already one of the most ethnically diverse countries, is set to explode in the coming decades and account for one-third of the population, Statistics Canada says.

In a projection released yesterday, Statistics Canada says by 2031 up to 14.4 million people in Canada could be a visible minority — with so-called minorities becoming the majority in two major cities — Toronto and Vancouver.

Driven largely by immigration, but also birth rates and younger median ages among visible minorities, the projection suggests the face of Canada will have changed dramatically over half a century.

In 1981, there were about one million Canadians — five per cent of the population — who identified themselves as visible minorities. The projection for 2031 is more than double the 5.3 million visible minorities counted in the 2006 census.

As the upward trend continues, Canadians will have to start thinking about races in a different way — not just visible minorities as compared to the Caucasian population, said a Queen's University sociology professor. "The idea of a visible minority is going to have to shift or it's going to start getting more and more ridiculous to talk about a minority of people who, in fact, are the majority," Richard Day said.

Statistics Canada takes its definition of a visible minority from the federal Employment Equity Act, which is "persons, other than Aboriginal peoples, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ruling minorities

- The largest visible minority group is projected to be South Asian, comprising 28 per cent of Canada's minority population in 2031, up from 25 per cent in 2006.
- The second largest group is projected to be Chinese, which could be 21 per cent of the minority population in 2031, down slightly from 24 per cent in 2006.

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ScanLife

Pups in peril: Lack of sea ice leaves seals with few places to bear and defend their young. Scan this code for the story.

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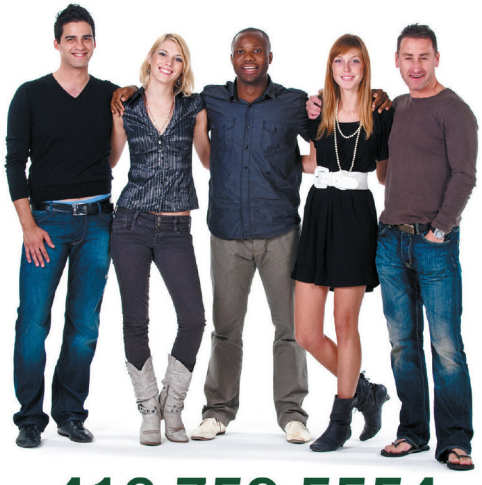

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Tories gain edge on Grits in latest poll

A new poll suggests the Conservative government is restoring a crack of daylight between itself and the Liberal opposition. The Canadian Press Harris-Decima survey covering a two-week period ending Sunday puts Conservative support at 33 per cent, the Liberals at 29 and New Democrats at 16 per cent. THE CANADIAN PRESS

CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Rahim Jaffer is questioned by the media yesterday as he leaves a courthouse in Orangeville.

Ex-MP pleads guilty to careless driving charge

Court drops accusations of drunk driving, coke possession

A former Conservative MP once known for his tough stance on drugs received a "break" when cocaine possession and drunk driving charges were withdrawn in a plea bargain, an Ontario judge said yesterday.

The deal, which saw Rahim Jaffer convicted of the lesser offence of careless driving, sparked an angry exchange in the House of Commons after the opposition Liberals accused the government of hypocrisy.

In convicting Jaffer and fining him $500, the Ontario court judge said he would not interfere with the joint submission by Crown and defence.

"I'm sure you can recognize a break when you see one," Justice Doug Maund told Jaffer.

Prosecutor Marie Balogh told the court there was no reasonable prospect of conviction on the more serious charges, saying there would be "significant legal issues" with proceeding on those.

Asked by Maund if he had anything to say, Jaffer simply said, "No, thank you, your honour."

Plea deal

- Margaret Miller, national president for MADD Canada, said Rahim Jaffer's deal was not unusual and would not impact efforts to fight impaired driving. The issue has garnered attention only because of Jaffer's profile, Miller said.

Jaffer, 38, refused to discuss his guilty plea under Ontario's Highway Traffic Act. He said he was relieved the case was over.

"I know that I should have been more careful," he said outside court.

"Once again I apologize for that, and I take full responsibility for my careless driving."

Jaffer, who is married to junior federal cabinet minister Helena Guergis, was arrested last Sept. 10 after police stopped him for driving at 90 kilometres per hour in a 50 km/h zone in Palgrave, north of Toronto.

Jaffer was the face of several Conservative public-service announcements on radio that called for a sentencing crackdown on drug dealers. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business needs to step up: Experts

ECONOMY The timid and cautious nature of Canadian business — not government policies or high taxes — is likely to blame for the country's woeful productivity record, analysts say.

And critics add the time has come for businesses to step up to the plate in creating the kind of competitive economy Canada will need to sustain better living standards in the future.

Analysis

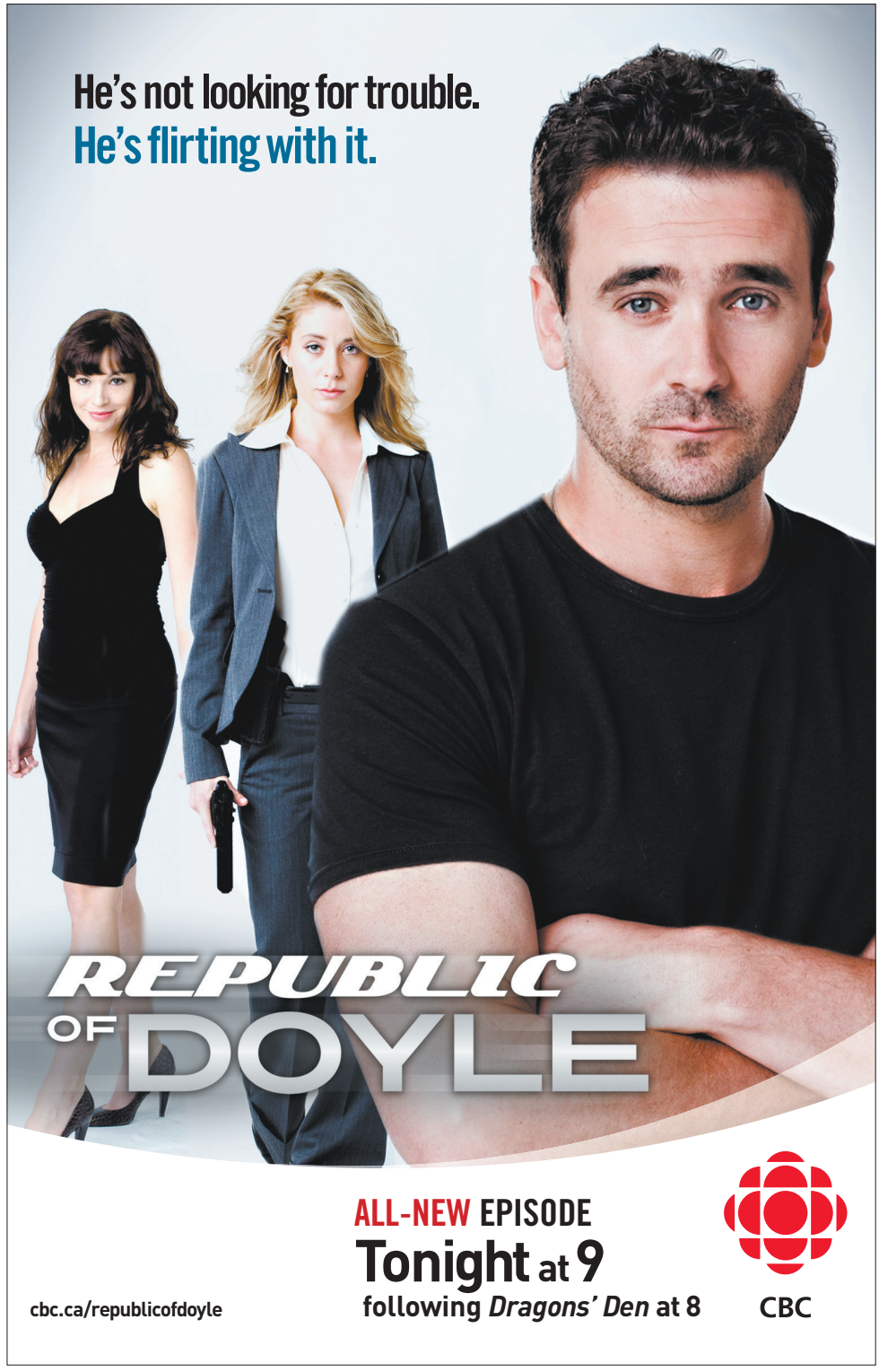
- CIBC chief economist Avery Shenfeld pointed out the corporate sector has got pretty much everything it has asked for. "It's time (for businesses) to ante up," he said.

The issue emerged again yesterday after the federal government called a news conference to trumpet its decision to eliminate all tariffs on imported manufacturing machinery and equipment, a $300-million boon to firms that take advantage.

But economists say the measure, which was unveiled in last week's budget, may not be any more successful than previous carrots offered by Ottawa to get businesses to invest for the future. CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

HALIFAX A man unloading luggage from his car at the Halifax airport wound up taking an unexpected trip yesterday. RCMP say another man, who police believe just arrived at the airport, jumped in the parked car and sped off toward Halifax. The car's owner pursued the thief in a friend's vehicle, calling the RCMP, who pulled over the stolen car about 20 kilometres away. A 25-year-old suspect is facing a charge of theft over $5,000. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Northern Ireland creates Justice Department

Northern Ireland lawmakers voted overwhelmingly yesterday in favour of taking the next key step in making their Catholic-Protestant government work, creating a Justice Department to oversee law and order. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

Cancer faker pleads guilty to theft

A Tennessee woman who faked having breast cancer for five years has pleaded guilty to theft and forgery for accepting sick leave from her co-workers and other donations. Keele Maynor, 39, pleaded guilty yesterday in state court. Defence attorney Stuart Brown says Maynor will serve no more than six years in prison. Sentencing is set for May 17. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

India approves female quota

Parliament votes to reserve one-third of seats for women

India's upper house of parliament voted overwhelmingly yesterday for a historic bill that would reserve one-third of legislative seats for women, despite a boycott by socialist members.

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh described the 186-1 vote as a "historic step forward toward emancipation of Indian womanhood." The bill now goes to the lower house, where it is likely to pass.

Members greeted the announcement of the voting result by thumping their desks. The vote came after socialist legislators blocked the parliamentary debate Monday and forced the upper house to adjourn twice yesterday. The protesters later boycotted the voting.

AJIT SOLANKI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

India's ruling Congress party supporters celebrate the passing of the Women's Reservation Bill yesterday.

The bill to reserve one-third of legislative seats for women — in national and state parliaments — has faced strong opposition since it was first proposed more than a decade ago, with many political leaders worried that their male-dominated parties would lose seats.

But the socialist objection is that the bill does not go far enough: They would like to see seats reserved for ethnic minorities and people from low castes. The Bahujan Samaj Party members, who mainly represent lower castes, participated in the debate but abstained from voting. They were protesting the government's rejection of their demand to reserve seats for women belonging to their community within the government proposal. On Monday, angry legislators in the Rajya Sabha, the upper house of parliament, rushed to the chairman's seat and tore up copies of the bill and tried to grab his microphone.

The bill is expected to be taken up by the powerful lower house of parliament for voting next week. It will have to be approved by 15 of India's 28 states before it becomes law.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DIETER ENDLICHER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this 2006 file photo, Pope Benedict XVI, right, walks with his brother, priest Georg Ratzinger.

Pope's brother says he was aware of physical abuse

GERMANY The pope's brother said in a newspaper interview published yesterday that he slapped pupils as punishment after he took over a renowned German boys' choir in the 1960s.

He also said he was aware of allegations of physical abuse at an elementary school linked to the choir but did nothing about it.

The Rev. Georg Ratzinger said he was completely unaware of allegations of sexual abuse at the Regensburger Domspatzen boys choir, part of a string of charges of sex abuse by church employees across Europe in recent days.

Responding to accusations that its policies encouraged silence about the problem, the Vatican said that the sexual abuse scandals in Germany and other countries were cause for anguish but its response has been prompt and transparent.

The scandal sweeping church institutions in many European countries kept widening yesterday.

In Austria, the head of a Benedictine monastery in Salzburg admitted to sexually abusing a child decades ago and resigned. Dutch Catholic bishops announced an independent inquiry into more than 200 allegations of sexual abuse of children by priests at church schools and apologized to victims.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

POLL Young adult Americans are financially anxious and worried that they cannot meet their educational, housing and health-care needs, according to a new poll. The poll by Harvard's Institute of Politics found that six out of 10 of those surveyed worry they may not meet their current bills and obligations. Almost half of those attending college wonder whether they will be able to afford to stay in school. More than eight out of 10 said they expect difficulty finding a job after graduation.

SECURITY Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport — the departure site for the Detroit underwear bomber — tightened security yesterday after journalists orchestrated a sting operation that smuggled bottles of liquids onto planes bound for London and Washington. In an undercover operation broadcast on TV Sunday, reporters refilled bottles bought at a duty-free store, resealed them and smuggled them back into the store.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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SCANLIFE

Rupert Murdoch slams Arab media for censorship that crushes the region's "creativity." Scan this code for the story.

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Three charged with theft of body of former Cyprus president
Cypriot police say three men have been arrested over the theft of the corpse of former president Tasos Papadopoulos. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Toyota facing lawsuits from car owners

Toyota owners claiming that massive safety recalls are causing the value of their vehicles to plummet have filed at least 89 class-action lawsuits that could cost the Japanese auto giant $3 billion US or more, according to an Associated Press review of cases, legal precedent and interviews with experts.

Those estimates do not include potential payouts for wrongful death and injury lawsuits, which could reach in the tens of millions each. Still, the sheer volume of cases involving U.S. Toyota owners claiming lost value — six million or more — could prove far more costly, adding up to losses in the billions for the automaker.

Such class-action lawsuits "are more scary for Toyota than the cases where people actually got injured," said Tom Baker, a University of Pennsylvania law professor. "A super-big injury case would be $20 million. But you could have millions of individual car owners who could (each) be owed $1,000. If I were Toyota, I'd be more worried about those cases."

As Toyota continues to deal with the recalls and wavering public confidence in its vehicle safety, its biggest financial fight may be in the courtroom. A key decision could come at a March 25 hearing in San Diego, where a panel of federal judges will consider whether to consolidate the mushrooming cases into a single jurisdiction. Toyota has so far recalled 5.6 million vehicles in the U.S. because of problems caused by what it says are accelerator pedals that become sticky or get trapped. More than 270,000 cars were recalled in Canada.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Prius speeds out of control on highway

CALIFORNIA A Toyota Prius that sped out of control on a California freeway was towed to a dealership yesterday while U.S. federal and company inspectors converged on the car to determine whether a stuck gas pedal was to blame.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration sent two investigators to examine the car after Monday's incident, said Olivia Alair, a spokeswoman for the Department of Transportation, which oversees NHTSA. Toyota Motor Corp. spokesman Brian Lyons said the automaker is sending three of its own technicians to investigate.

James Sikes, 61, of Jacumba, told authorities the accelerator malfunctioned Monday as he drove his Prius on Interstate 8 in San Diego County. The car reached 94 mph during the 20 minutes before a California Highway Patrol officer helped get the Prius driver to slow down and turn off the engine.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Prius' driver and the officer that saved him describe the "terrifying" experience in a video at **metronews.ca/world**

News in brief

MIDDLE EAST Israel approved the construction of 1,600 new homes for Jews in disputed east Jerusalem yesterday — a move that immediately clouded a visit by U.S. Vice-President Joe Biden aimed at kick-starting Mideast peace talks. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has rebuffed calls from the White House to halt all settlement activity, agreeing only to a limited freeze that does not include east Jerusalem. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Comment

With glowing hearts ... in Quebec

TheWestView

Paul Sullivan

metronews.ca/thewestview

One of the most underreported stories coming out of the Olympics is, to my mind, one of the most important.

Two separate polls indicate a remarkable increase in the glow of the hearts of the people of Quebec.

Leger Marketing reports that 79 per cent of those polled in Quebec said they have "a stronger sense of pride in Canada" when they watch Canadian athletes ascend to the podium.

And Ipsos-Reid reports that 63 per cent of Quebecers now call themselves "Canadian nationalists."

Whoa!

If these numbers hold up, Alexandre Bilodeau and Joannie Rochette have saved Canada! A relatively cheap $6-billion investment has succeeded where all that torturous hand-wringing, all that interminable Meech Lakeing and Charlottetowning, failed.

We probably shouldn't expect Quebec to replace "Je me souviens" with "Go Canada Go!" on licence plates, but it is more than nice to think that the "nation" of Quebec is back in the bosom of its family.

Many of the sour grapes thrown at Quebec from the "Rest of Canada" can be attributed to hurt feelings. They rejected our language, our culture, our Mounties, after we went to all that trouble to take up poutine. But now that Quebec has become, apparently overnight, a hotbed of Canadian nationalism, all is forgiven. Vive la différence!

The separatists have been reduced to a hard core of malcontents. Even Lucien Bouchard, the bête noir of the separatist nightmare, has lost his enthusiasm for the sovereignty project, sidelining it with a Gallic shrug as a losing game. Maybe later, he thinks.

Another poll, taken by the Association of Canadian Studies in Montreal, shows that only 29 per cent of Quebecers support the idea of a separate Olympic team for Quebec, but 65 per cent reject the idea.

This is a huge vote for Canada from a place that has been lukewarm at best. You could put it down to a short burst of enthusiasm to be followed by another interminable decade of bleak interactions. But what if the people of Quebec are tired of those things that separate us and are ready to become part of something bigger, more inclusive, more multicultural, less medieval?

This fashionable patriotism is really the first expression of a new generation of Canadians united, not by language, not by race, not by creed, but by the remarkable idea of a nation where we are all free to celebrate our heritage, yet also free to create a new identity that liberates us from things such as language laws and timeworn boundaries.

And somewhere between 63 and 79 per cent of Quebecers are ready, at last, to be free.

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.

Word on the street: Did anything in last week's budget affect you or your family?

Liz Sullivan
Toronto

A: I don't think anyone cares anymore. I don't think anyone even knows what it is or what would be in it ... Everything impacts us, but nothing that we didn't know about before.

Binh Quach
Toronto

A: The freezing of the employment insurance premium rate at $1.73 per $100 of insurable earnings ... because the earnings I have are pretty low right now, so it would help me out.

Erin Fisher
Toronto

A: It's good that they're trying to stimulate the economy more ... definitely the income tax relief will be useful to me because I'm an independent contractor. I rely very heavily on tax rebates.

Graeme Reniers
Halifax

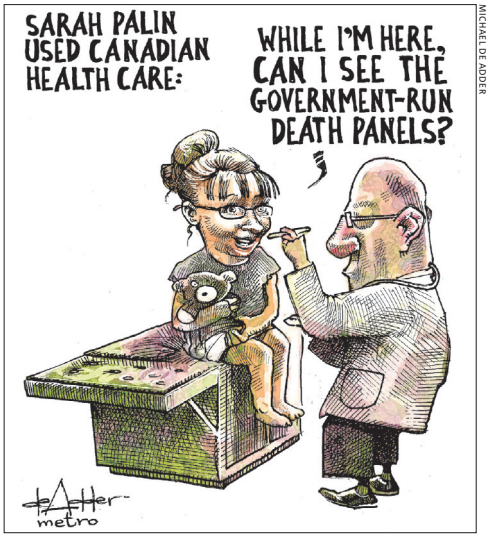
A: I'm a graduate student of international development and he froze foreign aid funds in the budget. That definitely affects me in terms of either getting a job or the reputation of my country as I go abroad and do my work.

Kathy Mendes
Edmonton

A: No, not really. I have just gotten married so that doesn't really affect me. Same with education. I've gone through university and all of that. The only thing could be health and everything's slow in the health-care process.

Ries Mentink
Vancouver

A: I think more of the budget should be spent on a sustainable future, green cars, and rapid transit that will help create more green jobs.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

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Mortgage tip

Review your mortgage at least once year. This will help you to take advantage of every break to reduce your mortgage balance and the amount of time it will take to pay off your home. Many institutions will allow you to pre-pay at least 15 per cent of your principal balance every year. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Spring Lending

SPECIAL FEATURES EDITOR: STEPHANIE.BOMBA@METRONEWS.CA

Conquer your mortgage

RAFAEL BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

Your first mortgage can be a scary thing, but if you plan ahead and stay committed, you can conquer it.

Gerri Vaughan, a mortgage specialist with Invis in Edmonton, recommends "practising" mortgage payments by saving chunks of money as if they were going into a mortgage, long before you get a home.

"I like to have clients pretend they're making a mortgage payment before they buy. Put away $1,000 or $1,500 every month for three to six months. That way you either collect a larger down payment or more money for incidentals while seeing if you can handle a mortgage," Vaughan said.

> **"Most individuals touch their mortgage at least once or twice during their term."**
> Peter Veselinovich

A major change to mortgage financing means first-time homebuyers need to be aware that if they choose a variable rate, they will still need to qualify for the five-year fixed rate, Vaughan says. What this means is that lenders want to see that you are picking the cheaper variable rate for strategic reasons and not out of desperation. This is not necessarily a bad thing, Vaughan says, since it just means you will have to be in better financial shape before you take on a mortgage.

If you do qualify for a variable rate, Vaughan suggests making payments based on the five-year fixed rate anyway, because anything extra you put into your mortgage will go directly to your principle — thus creating a nice buffer in case rates do rise while helping you pay off your mortgage quicker.

Peter Veselinovich, vice-president of banking and mortgage operations with Investors Group in Winnipeg, says that when it comes to shopping for a mortgage provider, don't fall into the trap of looking solely at interest rates — the terms of your mortgage itself are very important, too.

"Among the big traders, the interest rate is usually very similar, so what you're really looking at are the features of the mortgage. Does it have flexibility? Are you able to make changes to it? The reality is most individuals touch their mortgage at least once or twice during their term, it's seldom a once-and-done deal," Veselinovich said.

If you end up needing to make changes in your mortgage and find your mortgage doesn't have built-in flexibility, you'll likely pay a penalty much higher than what you would have paid for a more flexible mortgage.

First-time homebuyers now have to qualify for the five-year fixed mortgage rate, even if they plan to go with a variable rate.

Fixed vs. variable rates

Will a fixed rate really fix your mortgage and does a variable rate widely vary in its success? The truth comes down to your own financial situation.

It's no secret renewing a mortgage can be almost as nerve-racking as starting one in the first place, yet the process doesn't have to feel so daunting if you can get a handle on what your needs, goals and limits are.

The biggest choice with any mortgage renewal is whether to go for a fixed or variable interest rate. Fixed-rate mortgages guarantee a set payment structure, but they usually cost one or two per cent more than a variable-rate mortgage.

Variable-rate mortgages can fluctuate with rising interest rates, but usually run on a lower interest rate, which means you generally make cheaper payments.

Bernice Dunsby, director of home equity financing with RBC in Toronto, says no matter what kind of economy the country is in, which mortgage style you pick should depend on your financial situation.

"With a fixed-rate mortgage, you know exactly how much of your payment will go to principle and to interest and your amortization schedule won't change, so a lot of clients like the stability a fixed-rate provides," Dunsby said.

With variable-rate mortgages, you pay a rate often one or two per cent lower than fixed but if interest rates go up, a larger portion of your payment goes to interest, extending your amortization period. – RAFAEL BRUSILOW

Lines of credit can be used for home renos, investments: Expert

CODIE McLACHLAN
for Metro Canada

Are you considering making a large purchase, perhaps a house or a car, but already have a large balance on your credit card? Perhaps it's time to consider taking a line of credit with your bank.

Lines of credit are similar to loans in that customers are pre-approved for a certain amount of money, which they can then extend to themselves when they need it.

"We give lines of credit to clients who have a solid credit rating and have established credit," says Manny Grewal, an investment consultant for TD Canada Trust in Edmonton, noting that they are available for students as well, who typically need a co-signor.

"You can make purchases with it, you can use it for investment purposes, consolidation of debt, home renovations, along those lines," Grewal says.

The biggest difference between a line of credit and a credit card is the interest rate. Interest rates are typically a lot lower than with credit cards. For example, at TD Canada Trust, a Visa card normally comes with an annual interest rate of 19.75 per cent. A line of credit might be the prime interest rate (currently 2.25 per cent) plus two or three per cent.

Not just anyone can get a line of credit, Grewal says, adding that credit cards are easier to get.

"It's typically harder to give credit to clients who don't have a lot in savings," he says.

A line of credit doesn't necessarily replace a credit card, either.

"If you're on the road a lot, you can't book hotels with a line of credit," Grewal explains. "You need a credit card for that."

Jack Carr, an economics professor at the University of Toronto, says people often have overdraft privileges, which is similar to a line of credit. With overdraft privileges, a customer can take a specified amount of money out of their account — which they don't actually have — and pay it back with interest.

"(The bank) will charge me interest at a fairly reasonable rate that is less than a credit card rate," Carr explains.

"If you're only going to borrow small sums of money, it's not going to pay to go through all the hoops to get a line of credit," Carr adds, noting it doesn't do anything for your credit rating. "If you have outstanding balances on your credit rating and you didn't pay them off, your credit rating is going to go down."

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†President's Choice Financial personal banking services are provided by the direct banking division of CIBC.

Advertiser sets up shop in Toronto

Rethink, a Vancouver-based advertising and design agency, is opening a new office on Spadina Avenue on April 5. The 4,000-square-foot office will have in-house resources including data analysis, creative, account management and in-house production capabilities. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Business

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EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Miner considers sale of company

MINERALS Junior uranium miner Forsys Metals Corp. says it has completed a strategic and financial review of alternatives to advance its Valencia uranium project in Namibia, including possible sale of the company.

The Toronto-based miner said yesterday it was considering transaction proposals from a select group of parties interested in the project.

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Tokyo 3-D TV

SHIZIO KAMAYASHI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sony's 3-D televisions are introduced as a model watches with its 3-D glasses included in the TV set in Tokyo, Japan yesterday. Sony Corp. said it will start selling 3-D televisions in June, joining a competitive industry-wide push to convince consumers to embrace the technology.

Cisco looks to upgrade routers

TECH Cisco Systems Inc. announced yesterday that it is upgrading one of its biggest pieces of networking hardware, a router that's used to power the most trafficked parts of the Internet backbone.

Routers play an important role as the Internet's traffic cops, shunting packets of data to their destinations. Those placed at the Internet's backbone, the main arteries for traffic, need the most capacity given the amount of data.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Biggest five banks see rocketing profit

Earnings are a good sign of stabilization, say experts

Canada's five biggest banks saw their profits soar by nearly two-thirds in the first quarter of 2010 compared to the same period a year before when the recession had battered away at earnings.

The banks earned a combined $5.09 billion in the three months ended Jan. 31, compared to $2.97 billion in 2009, helped by lower loan losses and a resurgence in mortgages.

Scotiabank was the final bank to report earnings yesterday, posting a 17 per cent rise in profit to $988 million and beating analyst estimates.

Most of the banks came out with profits higher than Bay Street had expected, with Scotiabank, Bank of Montreal, TD Bank, and CIBC all beating estimates.

Royal Bank was the sole exception that missed expectations, even though Canada's largest bank posted the highest profit at $1.5 billion.

Craig Fehr, a financial services analyst with Edward Jones in St. Louis, said that the earnings provided early signs that loans are starting to stabilize.

"We're seeing a deceleration in the pace of impaired loan growth — meaning that less loans are going bad now relative to the past several quarters," he said.

It is "a welcome sign for the Canadian banks because the relief that's going to come from declining credit loss provisions over time will serve to unlock a lot of the earning power."

However, the banks aren't necessarily in a safety zone, and could still see their results impacted if the markets begin to weaken later this year, rather than continue to recover, as expected.

If the economy hits another wall then job losses could escalate.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Results

- The results provided further reason for optimism in a banking industry that has fared better than those in most other countries. Canada's banking sector is considered one of the least affected by the 2008-'09 credit crisis.

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SCANLIFE

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Aditya Birla Minacs acquires U.K.-based company
Toronto-based Aditya Birla Minacs, a global business solutions company, has acquired U.K.-based accounting services provider Compass BPO Ltd. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Wind Mobile blew in too soon: Report

Wind Mobile launched its new Canadian wireless communications service before it was ready and hasn't been able to attract significant customers, says a market-research report by the SeaBoard Group.

Toronto-based Globalive launched its Wind Mobile brand last December to compete nationally against established players Rogers, Bell and Telus.

But Wind Mobile's customers have had network problems and have been unable to buy the company's phones or pay their monthly bills online, says SeaBoard.

"We believe that it shows evidence of a company under extreme pressure to get to market before it was fully ready and a flawed launch plan," SeaBoard says.

> **"I think what we've seen is the result of a launch in haste."**
> Iain Grant, SeaBoard Group

"I think what we've seen is the result of a launch in haste," SeaBoard managing director Iain Grant said yesterday.

Grant estimated that Wind Mobile has managed to sign up less than 30,000 subscribers in Toronto, Calgary and Edmonton, a pool of about nine million people.

Grant said while some of Wind Mobile's monthly cellphone plans offer value, "there's nothing that really jumps off the page, saying 'Grab me.'"

Wind Mobile offers only four handsets and there's nothing less than $100, Grant said, leaving its customers as "anyone who has got $150 in their jeans to put up with the upfront costs."

However, he said Wind Mobile can learn from its mistakes and so can new entrants Mobilicity and Public Mobile, expected to launch later this year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Chevron plans 2,000 job cuts

OIL Chevron Corp. said yesterday it will cut 2,000 jobs this year and sell some overseas operations as it revamps its struggling refinery, marketing and transportation operations.

The job cuts represent almost 12 per cent of its 17,000 workers in the so-called downstream part of its business and just more than three per cent of its overall workforce.

Executives of the second-largest U.S. oil producer are still deciding where and when they will eliminate the jobs as they try to complete the restructuring by the third quarter, company spokesman Lloyd Avram said. Additional cuts are expected next year. Chevron said it will also seek bids for the Pembroke refinery in southwest Wales, and fuel marketing, aviation and lubricant businesses in the Caribbean and some markets in Central America.

PAUL SAKUMA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chevron Corp. is the second-largest U.S. oil producer.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Payrolls expected to remain status quo: Survey

WORKFORCE A recent survey of more than 1,900 Canadian employers found that 17 per cent of them expected to increase their payrolls in the second quarter of 2010.

That compares with six per cent of the respondents who anticipated reducing the size of their workforce and about three-quarters who expected to stay the course.

The survey was conducted by Manpower Canada, a private-sector company that provides staffing services to employers.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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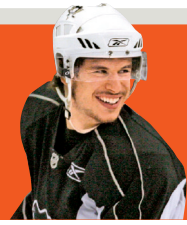
Sports



Pens GM defends Crosby

Pittsburgh Penguins GM Ray Shero doesn't think it was fair Sidney Crosby, left, received criticism after declining an opportunity to appear on the Late Show with David Letterman. Shero noted the Penguins star has had a packed schedule since scoring the winning goal at the Olympics and the team was entering a stretch where it will play four games in six days. THE CANADIAN PRESS

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

Lakers edge out Raptors in close finish to game

NBA RESULTS

Raptors 107 **Lakers** 109

VS

BASKETBALL Kobe Bryant hit a 17-foot fallaway jumper with 1.9 seconds left, and the Los Angeles Lakers rallied in the fourth quarter to snap their three-game losing streak with a 109-107 victory over the Toronto Raptors yesterday night.

Chris Bosh

Chris Bosh hit a three-pointer with 9.5 seconds left to tie it for the Raptors, who outplayed the defending champions for most of the first three quarters before losing on another big shot by Bryant, who scored 14 of his 32 points in the fourth quarter.

Bryant got the ball on the wing, eluded Antoine Wright's defence and moved nearly to the baseline for a graceful jumper. Wright's failed desperation shot set off a celebration for the Lakers, who haven't lost four straight games since April 2007.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SCOREBOARD

NHL

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

TORONTO 4 Boston 3 (OT)
Calgary 4 Detroit 2
Montreal 5 Tampa Bay 3
Nashville 2 Atlanta 1
Philadelphia 3 N.Y. Islanders 2
Florida 3 Minnesota 2 (SO)
Vancouver 6 Colorado 4
Ottawa 4 Edmonton 1
Columbus 5 Anaheim 2

TODAY'S GAMES
Dallas at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Carolina at Washington, 7 p.m.
Los Angeles at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Vancouver at Phoenix, 10 p.m.

NBA

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

TORONTO 107 L.A. Lakers 109
Charlotte 83 Miami 78
Houston 96 Washington 88
Indiana 107 Philadelphia 96
Milwaukee 86 Boston 84
Orlando 113 L.A. Clippers 87
Utah 132 Chicago 108
Portland 88 Sacramento 81

TODAY'S GAMES
Charlotte at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Memphis at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
Utah at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Denver at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
New Orleans at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
New Jersey at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
New York at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
TORONTO at Sacramento, 10 p.m.

Kulemin nets winner

NHL RESULTS

Bruins 3 **Leafs** 4 (OT)

VS

Nikolai Kulemin scored in overtime as the Toronto Maple Leafs defeated the Boston Bruins 4-3 last night.

Kulemin scored 4:11 into the extra frame, making the most of a broken two-on-one with Mikhail Grabovski and beating prone Bruins goaltender Tim Thomas.

Grabovski was playing for the first time since missing 23 games with a broken wrist.

The Leafs (21-33-12) forced overtime when Luca Caputi swatted home a rebound 7:13 into the third.

Caputi was playing his first game in his hometown of Toronto since being acquired at the trade deadline for Alexei Ponikarovsky,

Wayne Primeau and Carl Gunnarsson also scored for Toronto, while Jonas Gustavsson stopped 26 shots for the win.

Luke Schenn picked up a pair of assists for the Leafs, including a nice play to keep the puck in the offensive zone just before Caputi tied the game.

Mark Recchi and Marco Sturm each scored a goal and added two assists for Boston (29-24-12), while Patrice Bergeron got the Bruins' other marker.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CARLOS OSORIO/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Toronto Maple Leaf Viktor Stalberg tries to make a pass last night while being checked by Boston Bruin Patrice Bergeron.

NHL takes step towards head shot penalty

MEETING NHL general managers are ready to take a firm stance on hits to the head.

They moved one step closer to making an official rule recommendation yesterday when the eight-man group in charge of examining the issue came up with a penalty designed to curb head shots. It will present the idea to the larger group today and is expected to have a formal proposal for the competition committee when the meetings wrap up.

"We'd like to leave here — in my mind anyhow — with some clarity or closure going forward," said San Jose Sharks GM Doug Wilson. "(I think) we can put something in place to really say, 'This is how we're going to play the game.' What's acceptable, what's not acceptable."

The GMs were reluctant to outline exactly what the new penalty would entail because it could still be altered during today's session. However, they did say it will focus on hits delivered to unsuspecting players with a shoulder to the head.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sports in brief

CFL The Toronto Argonauts started filling their void at quarterback by acquiring Dalton Bell from the Saskatchewan Roughriders yesterday for a fifth-round draft pick in the 2010 CFL draft. The Argos, in the midst of a massive off-season overhaul, had been without a QB on the roster after releasing starter Kerry Joseph, backup Cody Pickett and little-used reserve Stephen Reaves last month.

BRIER Ontario's record remains perfect after seven games at the 2010 Tim Hortons Brier in Halifax, but it's getting pretty crowded just below. Newfoundland and Labrador climbed to 6-1 with an 8-3 win over New Brunswick, while Alberta, Northern Ontario and Manitoba sit at 5-2 after late draw action yesterday.

COYOTES The nearly year-long legal battle between the National Hockey League and former Phoenix Coyotes owner Jerry Moyes isn't over yet. The NHL filed a breach of contract lawsuit against Moyes and his family Friday, alleging that the trucking magnate violated a number of league agreements when he put the franchise in bankruptcy last year and then attempted to sell it to Canadian businessman Jim Balsillie.

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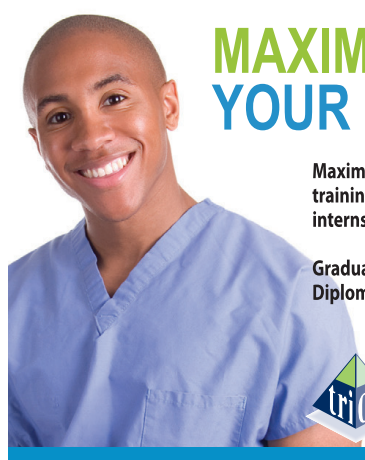

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Browns release Anderson
The Cleveland Browns released quarterback Derek Anderson yesterday, one day after the club acquired backup Seneca Wallace from Seattle. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

College route may yield high grades

TheHockeyNews

Adam Proteau
thehockeynews.com

In the 16 games the Maple Leafs have left in this season, their prospects will have ample time to audition for a permanent NHL job next year.

Players such as Nazem Kadri and Luca Caputi may stick with the Leafs by the time the 2010-11 campaign kicks off, but if the franchise has any hope of making the playoffs next season, it can't do so with a similar amount of inexperience on the roster.

There's no doubt the Leafs need to supplement their youth movement with some veteran know-how. Unfortunately, here's where that road gets bumpy: The NHL's pool of unrestricted free agents this summer looks as shallow as a beauty pageant judge.

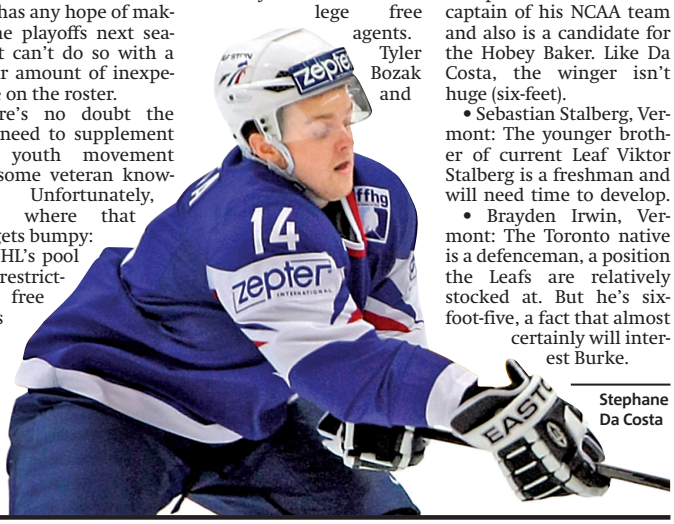
That's why ex-Leaf Matt Stajan was signed to a four-year, $14-million contract by Calgary last month; Flames GM Darryl Sutter knew if Stajan was allowed to test the free agent market, $3.5 million per year might be a bargain.

So if the odds of improving the Leafs through free agency are slim — and considering Toronto won't have its first- or second-round pick at the next entry draft — how will GM Brian Burke strengthen his organization?

One option is the same one management leaned on last year: Undrafted college free agents. Tyler Bozak and Christian Hanson both were wooed by Burke (and other GMs) before they signed with Toronto. Here are a few current undrafted collegians who might become prominent in the Leafs' plans:

The Hockey News
thn.com

- Stephane Da Costa, Merrimack College: The smallish (five-foot-11) forward has 44 points in 31 games this season and is a candidate for the Hobey Baker Award as the U.S. collegiate game's top player.
- Bobby Butler, New Hampshire: Butler is co-captain of his NCAA team and also is a candidate for the Hobey Baker. Like Da Costa, the winger isn't huge (six-feet).
- Sebastian Stalberg, Vermont: The younger brother of current Leaf Viktor Stalberg is a freshman and will need time to develop.
- Brayden Irwin, Vermont: The Toronto native is a defenceman, a position the Leafs are relatively stocked at. But he's six-foot-five, a fact that almost certainly will interest Burke.



Stephane Da Costa

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3. Shawn Tschritter	A, CA	882	364	524	888
4. Stephanie Warren	N, CA	864	369	516	885
5. Christian Gagnon	N, CA	839	355	524	879
6. Kyle Turk	N, CA	890	370	503	873
7. Dennis MacDougall	N, CA	860	360	511	871
8. Cole Warren	N, CA	872	330	536	866
9. Bernie Horton	O, CA	826	359	505	864
10. Joanne Doiron	N, CA	832	349	513	862
11. Blaine Schlechter	A, CA	852	350	509	859
12. Jordan Camponi	A, CA	838	336	521	857
13. Jean-Paul Osborne	Q, CA	877	350	505	855
14. Grant Greenfield	A, CA	849	380	474	854
15. Darrick Bowden	N, CA	848	338	513	851

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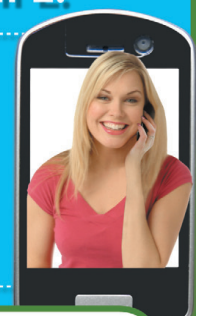

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Co-op students find better work, earn more, study finds

A three-phase study from the University of Waterloo finds that co-op students earn higher salaries and get more prestigious jobs following graduation compared to their non co-op counterparts. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Workology

SFU opens 3-D theatre

Last Friday, Simon Fraser University's Surrey campus unveiled its new digital theatre, the result of a complete retrofit of the 200-seat Westminster Savings Centre Union Theatre, the largest lecture theatre at the campus. Surrey-based Lightyear Digital Theatre donated more than $400,000 worth of equipment, software, and installation to the theatre. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Options in engineering

Engineering **the Future**

Metro Workology is focusing on careers and education in the engineering sector for the month of March to celebrate National Engineering Month. Check back every Wednesday.

JON TATTRIE
for Metro Canada

You wouldn't think grizzly bear tracking would be in your set of skills as an engineer, but it could be.

Engineering is a versatile discipline, with professionals working in medicine, wildlife conservation and forensics in Canada and around the world.

Elizabeth Cannon, dean of the Schulich School of Engineering at the University of Calgary, says engineers build bridges, cars and buildings, but it's also more widespread and cutting edge. "The evolution of the engineering discipline has been going on for a long time, but sometimes we suffer from some of the stereotypes," she says.

One of those stereotypes is that engineers are men, but Cannon says 24 per cent of her students are women and she works hard to increase that number. "Women students do very well in our programs … and when they go out in industry, they again do very, very well."

Health-inclined engineers can go into biomedical engineering, which has engineers create new devices, such as robots that perform brain surgery.

"Engineers have a very direct and significant impact on the evolution of how medicine will be performed now and into the future," Cannon says.

Geomatics, Cannon's field, builds GPS technology for in-car navigation, Smartphones and even tracking grizzly bears. The wildlife trackers help conservationists, biologists and policy makers. "The collection of data and the interpretation of data is what we do in the engineering field, in addition to actually producing the devices," she says.

Engineers can also specialize in building robots that work in danger zones like search-and-rescue or mine detection.

"Engineering is a career that can really allow you to make a difference in the world," Cannon says. "You can work in the office, in the field, locally or internationally."

Gilles Amirault is a forensic engineer with Calgary-based Samac, but he admits he hadn't even heard of forensic engineers before he became one. He found the job posted online after graduating from Dalhousie University's co-op mechanical engineering program in 2004.

Forensic engineers visit the scene of vehicular accidents and use applied physics and dynamics to work out what happened. Using police markings, they take photographs and detailed notes, speak with police, inspect the vehicles, get witness information and then reconstruct the incident with computer software.

"It's determining the speed of the vehicles involved, who went over the centre line, who was at fault, who could have prevented the incident, who could not have," he says. "It's really interesting."

For more of the Engineering the Future exclusive series check Workology every Wednesday or stop by: **metronews.ca/work**

Workology in **brief**

ALBERTA INVITES STUDENTS TO ASSESS DRINKING HABITS USING ONLINE TOOL The University of Alberta is encouraging students to take an online survey called "Check Yourself" to assess the impact of their alcohol consumption. A coalition of uAlberta student services groups hopes the survey's results will help the groups better understand issues surrounding student drinking and how to reduce alcohol-related problems on campus. The University of Western Ontario is offering a similar assessment to its students.

UCALGARY INVESTIGATES RACIST GRAFFITI ON STUDENT ELECTION CAMPAIGN POSTERS The University of Calgary is investigating an incident in which campaign posters belonging to a pair of candidates in a recent student election were marked with racist graffiti. On one poster of a female Muslim student, swastikas were drawn on the forehead of the woman's picture, along with an arrow pointing to her hijab with a note reading, "This is a hate crime." University officials say the vandals have not been caught, and the school will be watching carefully to see if a trend forms.

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Majority of students concerned about meeting university costs, survey finds
According to a survey released Monday, nearly 60 per cent of students reported being very or somewhat concerned with having sufficient funds to pay for their university education. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Fashion first at FashionWorks

RAFAEL BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

Networking is crucial to success in any industry and George Brown College wants to ensure their fashion program graduates get a head start in job hunting at their gala, FashionWorks 2010 on March 29.

At FashionWorks, graduating students of George Brown College's fashion programs get to hobnob with leading fashion industry executives and celebrate the achievements of alumni already finding success in the fashion world.

Marilyn McNeil-Morin, chair of fashion studies and performing arts at George Brown, says the main goal of the event is all about helping fashion students put their best foot forward in the job market.

"The event really highlights the new grads and introduces them to the industry by giving them an opportunity to meet and network for jobs with industry professionals and share stories and ideas," says McNeil-Morin.

On the flip side, the event also allows companies involved in fashion to showcase themselves to new graduates in a bid to attract the best young talent. Companies have found the event so popular in past years that 40 to 50 firms are expected to send representatives this year to meet with the more than 100 graduating students expected to attend.

McNeil-Morin estimates that about 20 per cent of grads attending past FashionWorks galas have found jobs or other employment connections through the event itself so it's no surprise graduates and businesses alike tend to flock to the gala.

Kingi Carpenter, 27, started her own fabric and fashion company Peach Berserk after having studied at George Brown and now is heading to FashionWorks 2010 to meet with peers and students and see how the industry is progressing. While the economy hit fashion just as hard as it did other industries, she believes things are moving forward and therefore fashion grads should be able to find more jobs for themselves in the Canadian landscape.

"I think the industry is picking up and people are looking more for things that are made in Canada, (I think) there'll be a lot more work coming," says Carpenter.

Students have a chance to talk with professionals in the fashion industry at George Brown's FashionWorks 2010.

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SUBMITTED PHOTOS

An example of what could be seen at FashionWorks 2010.

Chasing the dream in the Den

Dragons' Den
Dianne Buckner
metronews.ca/dragonsden

Unless you're one of the lucky few who was born into wealth, you likely have to work for a paycheque.

The same is true for entrepreneurs. Some are fortunate to start the type of business that generates income almost immediately. Others have to keep working at a 'day job' in order to finance their dream of launching a successful venture.

On tonight's episode of Dragons' Den you'll see an example of both.

Sunshine Tenasco-Brazeau is a mother of three, trying to support her family off the fruits of her labour. She's managed to create a small business based on a product she creates, and about which she is passionate.

She's getting by but barely. In order to continue putting all her energy into her fledging business, she's come to the Den for a small injection of cash to buy a machine and hire staff. That will increase her productivity and her profits.

Another entrepreneur who has to work hard at a regular job to support his family is Henry Omedi. He has a night job working 13-hour shifts as a truck driver but he'd love to spend all his time pursuing his passion — manufacturing and marketing his golf invention, ideally raking in the cash.

The Dragons are the first to acknowledge that building a business doesn't happen overnight, and it doesn't happen for free. They all held regular jobs for years before they transformed themselves into independent multi-millionaires. And they definitely appreciate hard work, knowing firsthand how much time and money an entrepreneur must invest to make it work.

They express concern that Henry's been working on the same concept for almost a decade, and has spent $380,000 of his hard-earned money creating his product.

Henry says he can improve a person's golf swing in 5 minutes, and has created a tool to do it. The Dragons point out in a saturated market of golf products, Henry's invention will struggle for market share.

But he's definitely persistent: "I'm willing to do what it takes," he pleads to the Dragons.

To which Arlene responds, "At what risk, Henry? Your family's risk?" She clearly fears that his expensive dream will cost more than it's worth.

Dragons' Den is definitely about dreams, and what can be accomplished when people have the guts and savvy to make dreams a reality — but it's also about money. And it's the biggest factor investors consider when deciding whether or not to help finance a dream.

Dianne Buckner is the host of Dragons' Den and the weekend anchor on the CBC News Network. Watch Dragons' Den at 8 p.m. tonight on CBC.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Dragon Jim Treliving tests Vancouver entrepreneur Henry Omidi's Swing Wizards, airing tonight on Dragons' Den.

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Nothing sinister in bank's bonus offer

WorkplaceLaw

Daniel Lublin

Metronews.ca/workplacelaw

Employees don't always get the bonus they deserve. Seldom will this amount to a successful lawsuit.

Veteran investment banker Kenneth Mathieson was well rewarded in his good years. In 2005, he earned a bonus of $1.1 million. However, when his employer, Scotia Capital, decided that he deserved only $360,000 in 2006 — the lowest bonus he had ever received — Mathieson believed the bank was attempting to force his resignation. He wasn't about to go quietly.

Mathieson complained to management, who listened to his concerns, but remained firm in their decision: His 2006 performance was not at par with his colleagues, which led to his low bonus award. Eventually, fed up with Mathieson's protests, the bank fired him. Mathieson sued, claiming that his bonus had been reduced in bad faith, among a handful of other claims.

At a recent trial, an Ontario judge found that there was nothing unreasonable about Mathieson's 2006 bonus award. He had received the lowest performance score for employees at his level according to the bank's standard criteria. Although there is always an element of discretion in awarding bonuses, here that discretion had been fairly exercised.

Further, on the issue of bad faith, the court found that there was nothing sinister or unfair about the process Scotia employed and that it was not a ruse used to drive him to quit. Simply put, the bank was able to demonstrate that although Mathieson's bonus award was lower than previously, it had a reasonable justification for the figure it imposed. Most of Mathieson's claims were dismissed, and he was ordered to pay a large component of his former employer's legal costs.

Mathieson's bonus compensation may be limited to very few. However, the court's legal findings about bonuses apply much more broadly to Canadian workplaces, so both employees and employers should consider the following advice:

Courts are reluctant to supplant an employer's assessment of performance and bonuses, as long as the process it followed was fair and consistently applied.

Few bonuses are truly discretionary. Although Mathieson lost the big issue in his case, he was still awarded an average bonus payment as a component of his severance.

Daniel A. Lublin is an employment lawyer with Whitten & Lublin LLP. Reach him at dan@toronto-employmentlawyer.com.

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Centennial launches Islamic finance course

EVA LAM
for Metro Canada

Centennial College is aiming to enhance Toronto's global standing as a financial services hub with the launch of an Islamic finance course this May.

The school is the first training provider to offer the course in association with the London-based Chartered Institute for Securities and Investment (CISI). The 60-hour online course will be the required first step for individuals looking to obtain their Islamic Finance Qualification (IFQ), an internationally recognized accreditation administered by CISI.

According to a 2005-2006 annual report by the Islamic Development Bank, Islamic financial institutions manage more than $800 billion worldwide — a figure expected to rise considerably in the coming years. "This particular financial sector is currently experiencing an unprecedented growth rate within the global financial market," says course professor Rehan Saeed.

The Introduction to Islamic Finance and Investment course will provide general knowledge of the principles of Islamic law, or Shariah, and its application to Islamic banking and finance. One key aspect of Islamic finance is that it does not charge interest, which is seen as punitive to the borrower.

However, this does not mean that it is a profit-free form of financing. "It's just how you structure the transition that makes it Shariah complaint," says Saeed. Amongst other topics, the course will cover the concept of wa'd (promise), the use of letters of credit and guarantees in Islamic finance contracts and prohibited industries such as alcohol, arms and pornography.

After completing the course, students are eligible to separately register for and write the IFQ Exam through the CISI.

John Harris, a program chair at the college's School of Business, says the college's diverse population was a key factor in the decision to introduce the course.

"Centennial College is really one of the most multicultural of colleges," he says, noting that more than 80 different languages are represented on campus. "So certainly it's consistent with our reach to the international market to offer a course like this."

Originally scheduled to begin this fall, the course will now launch with a summer run due to the high level of interest, says Harris.

Centennial is part of the OntarioLearn network, which will enable students to enrol anywhere in the world. The college is recognizing the course as a credit against full-time programs in accounting and others.

Register

- The course starts on May 14, registration opens March 15 at centennialcollege.ca/dl.

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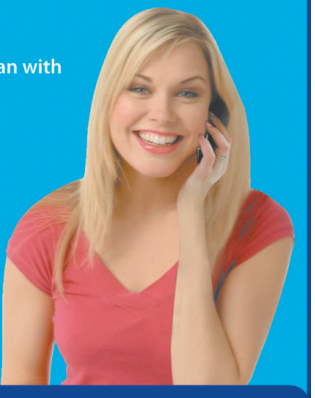

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Metro Drive

Own the glory

The Olympic-branded GM vehicles that were used during the 2010 Olympics will be available for sale to the public at the end of the Paralympic Winter Games this month.
METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

Altima races to the top

JIL MCINTOSH
for Metro Canada

Nissan may be focused on its upcoming electric cars these days, but it hasn't forgotten gasoline. For 2010, it offers a refreshed version of the midsize Altima sedan.

It's available with a 2.5-litre four-cylinder, at a starting price of $23,798. My tester used the 3.5-litre V6, which starts at $28,298; in top-line SR trim, my vehicle was $31,898, further tweaked with a $3,550 Leather Package of cowhide seats, upgraded stereo, Bluetooth and other items. While the four-cylinder can be ordered with a six-speed manual transmission, the V6 exclusively uses a continuously variable transmission (CVT), which functions as a gearless automatic. The Altima is also available as a two-door coupe or gasoline-electric hybrid sedan.

Modifications to the 2010 are relatively minor. Front-end styling is changed, although the back end remains the same. An important difference is that stability and traction control are now standard on all models.

Altima is a very competent performer, with crisp handling, pleasant ride and quiet performance. The 270-hp V6 offers impressive acceleration, and while I'm still not entirely sold on the feel of in CVTs in larger cars, this unit works fine.

The company thinks so too, and in an effort to convince customers who worry about repair costs, it has doubled the warranty on all such units, back to 2003, for a total of 10 years or 200,000 km, whichever comes first. Official fuel ratings are 10.2 L/100 km in the city and 7.2 on the highway, while during a week of cold-weather driving, I averaged 11.1 L/100 km.

Early Altimas suffered from cheap interiors, but the company has gotten progressively better, and this new version looks and feels refined.

The controls are simple and easy to use, plastic pieces are fitted together well, and the upgraded Bose stereo includes a colour audio display screen and an iPod menu button that takes you directly to your player when it's plugged into the auxiliary outlet.

The roomy rear seats fold down, increasing the trunk from a length of 110 cm to a total of 170 cm of cargo length.

Overall, when midsize sedan buyers are making their test-drive list, Altima deserves to be in the top tier. Nissan's continuing attention to this sedan over the years has certainly paid off.

2010 Nissan Altima

Type: Midsize sedan
Price: from $23,798
Engine: 2.5L four-cylinder/3.5L V6
HP: 270 (V6)
Fuel Economy: 10.2L/100 km city, 7.2L/100 km highway

Highlights

- Roomy, plush interior with improved sound system
- Standard stability and traction control

The 2010 Nissan Altima is a very competent performer, with crisp handling, pleasant ride and quiet performance, Jil McIntosh says.

Inside, the new Altima looks and feels refined. The controls are simple and easy to us and plastic pieces fit together well.

The Honda 3R-C concept

A Honda concept, just for you

DEBUT The Honda 3R-C, a revolutionary one-person battery electric vehicle concept, made its world debut at the recent Geneva Motor Show.

The three-wheeled 3R-C concept shows what a future minimal urban transport vehicle for one person might look like. The battery electric drivetrain is mounted low in the three-wheeled chassis, therefore keeping the centre of gravity low and thus improving stability.

The 3R-C has a clear canopy that covers the driver's seat while it is parked and not in use.

When 3R-C vehicle is in motion, the canopy becomes an enveloping windshield that provides the pilot with significant protection from the bodywork and doors.
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Smart customers always read the fine print. † Features listed are standard on 2010 Lancer DE. Technical data, equipment and options are based on the latest information at time of printing and are subject to change without notice. Vehicles may not be exactly as shown. ‡/◊/¥ For all offers, customers must sign contract and take delivery from dealer by March 31, 2010. All offers available only through participating dealers to qualified retail customers in Canada and are only on approved credit. Selling price excludes up to $1350 in freight for cars and up to $1450 in freight for SUVs, $100 in air tax, up to $30 in environmental handling fees, taxes, PDI, up to $75 in PPSA, registration, insurance, licensing, administration fees, documentation fees, other dealer fees, and any additional provincial government fees. All advertised offers are stackable. See participating dealer for details. ‡ $1,000 discount ($750 from Mitsubishi Motors $250 from dealer) valid on the retail purchase/finance/lease of 2010 Lancer models only (excludes Lancer Evolution). $1,000 will be deducted from the negotiated purchase/finance/lease price after taxes and may be used towards down payment, monthly payments, or selling price. Selling price (including $1,000 discount) from $15,998 on base model 2010 Lancer DE (CL41-A C05). ◊ Purchase financing at 0% APR available through Bank of Nova Scotia and Bank of Montreal for up to 60 months on all new 2010 Lancer DE and SE models (Lancer Evolution models excluded), 2009 Lancer Sportback GTS models, and 2010 Endeavor models; and up to 72 months on all new 2009 Galant and 2009 Eclipse models. Purchase financing at 0.8% APR available through Bank of Nova Scotia and Bank of Montreal for up 60 months on all new 2010 Outlander models. Financing example: 2010 Lancer DE (CL41-A C05)/2010 Outlander ES 2WD (CO45-A C04) with an MSRP of $15,998 (includes $1,000 discount)/$25,498 financed at 0%/0.8% over 60 months equals $267/$368 a month with a down payment of $0/$3,861, a cost of borrowing of $0/$443, and a total obligation of $15,998/$22,080. Vehicles may not be exactly as shown. ¥ No payments for 90 days. Offer applies to purchase financing offers on new 2010 Mitsubishi models through the Bank of Nova Scotia and Bank of Montreal. Interest charges (if any) will not accrue during the first 60 days after purchaser signs contract for a participating vehicle. After the first 60 days interest (if any) starts to accrue and the purchaser will repay principal and interest (if any) monthly over the term of the contract. * Whichever comes first. Regular maintenance not included. See dealer or mitsubishi-motors.ca for warranty terms, restrictions and details. Not all customers will qualify. ** Best backed claim does not cover Lancer Evolution and Ralliart models. See dealer or Mitsubishi-motors.ca for Education Edge terms, conditions, and other details. ® MITSUBISHI MOTORS, BEST BACKED CARS IN THE WORLD are trade-marks of Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc. and are used under license.

Acura TSX Sport Wagon coming

Acura will unveil its all-new 2011 TSX Sport Wagon at the New York International Auto Show on March 31. The model arrives at dealerships this fall. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Beg, borrow or rent

AutoPilot

Mike Goetz

metronews.ca/autopilot

Anybody abuse rental cars? I try not to. But it's hard.

I have sympathy for all things mechanical, but renting a car is like accepting a challenge. Your mission: Use every bit of the car and the rental agreement you're signing for, and then some. The rental company's mission: Go on the offensive and generally just anticipate and prepare for the worst possible consumer behaviour. Game on.

Actually I think I've never been a totally ruinous rental-car customer. Certainly not as bad as comedian Will Shriner, who uses this technique to fulfill the obligation of returning a rental car with a full tank of gas: "I just top it off with a garden hose."

But what gets me to contemplate bad behaviour like that, is when they ask for extra insurance coverage — because in most instances, you don't need it.

Consumer advocate and insurance expert, Lee Romanov, says she never buys extra collision insurance, citing that most credit card companies automatically provide that coverage when you use their card for the rental transaction.

Renting a nice convertible for your road trip may be fine, but make sure you know how well you are covered through your credit card company and your own insurance.

"I recommend that people call up their credit card company, and ask about rental car coverage. What am I covered for?"

Another good option, according to Romanov, is to make sure you have a "non-owned vehicle" rider on your personal auto insurance policy.

"Between the credit card coverage and the rider, there should be no need for extra insurance," notes Romanov. She adds that if you do smash something, it's in your interest to let the credit card company "take the hit," as the insurance company will surely put the collision on your record and factor it into your premiums.

If you're thinking your premiums are already a bit too rich, you might want to check out insurancehotline.com. This site, founded by Romanov, allows you to compare rates from virtually all of the auto insurers operating in Canada.

> **"I recommend that people call up their credit card company, and ask about rental car coverage."**
> Lee Romanov of InsuranceHotline.com

Of course the cheaper option to running your own car, or renting one, is borrowing one.

Have you had anyone, other than family members, ask to borrow your car?

That's a weird feeling. My mouth says, "yeah sure," but the rest of my being says, "Are you nuts? Hey, why don't you just sleep in my bed too?

Unfortunately, you can't politely refuse on "insurance" grounds, because insurance companies don't seem to mind.

"If it's your car and insured, you can lend it to anyone you want," says Romanov. But she does offer these cautionary words to those gentle souls who share their rides.

"If that person gets a speeding ticket, it is their speeding ticket, it won't affect your rates. But if they have an accident, it's basically your accident, and stays on your insurance policy for six years."

Michael Goetz has been writing about cars and editing automotive publications for over 20 years. He lives in Toronto with his family and a neglected 1967 Jaguar E-type.

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Flats and blowouts can be caused by road hazards, a tire defect, or lack of care, and can cause you to lose control of the vehicle.

4 car problems that will leave you stranded

Most of us don't like surprises when it comes to our cars, especially the kind that leave us stranded on the highway in bad weather.

In the magazine's annual auto issue, the editors of Consumer Reports provide advice on how to avoid unwelcome surprises like blowouts, dead batteries, blown fuses, and broken drive belts, and suggest how to deal with them if they do happen.

1. DEAD BATTERY: This is often the culprit when the engine won't turn over or start. All batteries will weaken over time. Certain activities can leave the battery undercharged, like infrequent use, a lot of short trips, or using multiple accessories when the headlights are on. Even forgetting to turn off a light or listening to the radio with the engine off can drain the juice out of your battery, making it too weak to start when you need it.

HOW TO PREVENT IT: Although the effect of a drained battery often shows up on cold mornings, it's the high temperatures of summer that usually do the most damage. So a battery can fail at any time. Be sure to have the battery and alternator tested as part of an annual inspection.

2. FLAT TIRE OR BLOWOUT: Flats and blowouts can be caused by road hazards, a tire defect, or lack of care, and can cause you to lose control of the vehicle. If you experience either of these, Consumer Reports recommends taking a firm grip of the wheel and gently guiding the car off the road as soon as possible.

HOW TO PREVENT IT: Many tire problems result from underinflated tires that overheat, due to low tire pressure. Keep all tires, including the spare, properly inflated to the automaker's recommended pressure by checking them monthly. Also, inspect the tire sidewalls for bulges or cracks.

3. FLUID LEAK An undetected leak in a critical system can be devastating, possibly resulting in a blown engine or transmission or even brake failure.

HOW TO PREVENT IT: Check the car's fluid levels regularly, using your owner's manual as a guide. Look for leaks on the pavement where you park. Black drips are oil; green, orange, or yellow are coolant; and brown or reddish oily drips can be transmission or brake fluid. Any of those can spell trouble and warrant a trip to the mechanic to inspect your car.

4. BLOWN FUSE: When a fuse goes, it can disable a critical electrical system, such as the headlights, defroster, or antilock brake system, any of which could lead to an accident.

WHAT TO DO: You can't prevent an electrical problem, but a blown fuse should be the first thing you check if one happens. Consumer Reports recommends carrying a selection of spare fuses and a fuse puller in the car. Fuse kits can be purchased at auto parts stores. Be sure to check your owner's manual to make sure the fuses you buy are the correct amp rating and size. If the same fuse blows repeatedly, have a mechanic inspect the system.

FROM CARGUIDE

CLAIM YOUR MAZDA SALES EVENT

It's time to stake your claim on a new Mazda.

0% PURCHASE FINANCING†

PLUS NO PAYMENTS FOR 90 DAYS** ON ALL 2010 MODELS

GT model shown

Canada's Best-Selling Passenger Car of 2010‡

2010 MAZDA 3 SEDAN

0% purchase financing† up to 60 months | well equipped from $17,390* | Offer Includes: Freight.....$840 P.D.E.....$555

TOP SAFETY PICK 2009 — For DSC-equipped models▼

Top 10 Best Retained Value Award by Canadian Black Book

BEST NEW CAR UNDER $21k

★★★★★ HIGHEST GOVERNMENT FRONTAL CRASH SAFETY RATING♦

GT model shown

Canada's Best-Selling Passenger Car of 2010‡

2010 MAZDA 3 SPORT

0% purchase financing† up to 60 months | well equipped from $18,390* | Offer Includes: Freight.....$840 P.D.E.....$555

TOP SAFETY PICK 2009 — For DSC-equipped models▼

Top 10 Best Retained Value Award by Canadian Black Book

BEST NEW CAR OVER $21k

★★★★★ HIGHEST GOVERNMENT FRONTAL CRASH SAFETY RATING♦

GT model shown

Three-row seating for six

2010 MAZDA 5

★★★★★ HIGHEST GOVERNMENT FRONTAL CRASH SAFETY RATING♦

2010 ecoENERGY VEHICLE AWARD▲

0% purchase financing† up to 60 months | well equipped from $22,090* | Offer Includes: Freight.....$1,060 P.D.E.....$535

GT-V6 model shown

2010 MAZDA 6

★★★★★ 5-STAR SAFETY TOP GOV'T RATING, ALL 5 TESTS♦

2009 Best New Family Car $22k-$30k

0% purchase financing† up to 60 months | well equipped from $24,790* | Offer Includes: Freight.....$940 P.D.E.....$655

GT-V6 model shown

2010 TRIBUTE

★★★★★ HIGHEST GOVERNMENT CRASH TEST RATING♦

0% purchase financing† up to 72 months | well equipped from $25,045* | Offer Includes: Freight.....$1,060 P.D.E.....$535

OFFERS END MARCH 31ST

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READY TO ROLL — MAZDA GRADUATE PROGRAM

†0% APR Purchase Financing is available on all new 2010 Mazda vehicles. Based on a representative agreement using an offered pricing of $17,390/$18,390/$22,090/$24,790/$25,045 for the new 2010 Mazda3 GX (D4XS50AA00)/2010 Mazda3 Sport GX (D5XS50AA00)/2010 Mazda5 GS (E6SD50AA00)/2010 Mazda6 GS-I4 (G4SY60AA00)/2010 Mazda Tribute GX-I4 2WD (WVXD50AA00) with a financed amount of $15,000/$15,000/$20,000/$20,000/$25,000, the cost of borrowing for a 60/60/60/60/72-month term is $0, monthly payment is $250.00/$250.00/$333.33/$333.33/$347.22, total finance obligation is $15,000/$15,000/$20,000/$20,000/$25,000. *Offered Pricing for new 2010 Mazda3 GX (D4XS50AA00)/2010 Mazda3 Sport GX (D5XS50AA00)/2010 Mazda5 GS (E6SD50AA00)/2010 Mazda6 GS-I4 (G4SY60AA00)/2010 Mazda Tribute GX-I4 2WD (WVXD50AA00) is $17,390/$18,390/$22,090/$24,790/$25,045. As shown, MSRP for 2010 Mazda3 GT (D4TY60AB00)/2010 Mazda3 Sport GT (D5TY60AB00)/2010 Mazda5 GT (E6TD50AA00)/2010 Mazda6 GT-V6 (G4TB80AA00)/2010 Mazda Tribute GT-V6 AWD (WXTZ70AA00) is $25,285/$26,285/$25,890/$38,290/$36,590. **No payments for 90 days applies to purchase finance offers on new in-stock 2010 Mazdas. The purchaser will repay principal monthly over the term of the contract, commencing 90 days after contract date. $65 PPSA, $5 OMVIC transaction fee, licence, insurance, taxes, down payment and other dealer charges may be required at the time of purchase. ▲Based on 2010 fuel consumption ratings published by Natural Resources Canada. ♦2010 Mazda3/2010 Mazda3 Sport/2010 Mazda5/2010 Mazda6/2010 Mazda Tribute models tested with standard side-impact air bags (SABs). U.S. Government star ratings are part of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA's) New Car Assessment Program (www.safercar.gov). ▼Based on Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. ‡ Canada's Best-Selling Passenger Car of 2010 - Based on DesRosiers Automotive reports for period of January and ending February of 2010. Offers available from March 2, 2010 until March 31, 2010. All offers exclude $65 PPSA, $5 OMVIC transaction fee, licence, insurance, other taxes, down payment. Other dealer charges may be required at the time of purchase. Lease and Finance on approved credit for qualified customers only. Dealer may sell for less. Dealer order may be necessary. Visit mazda.ca or see your dealer for complete details.

World Car finalists named

The top three finalists — Mercedes-Benz E-Class, Toyota Prius and Volkswagen Polo — for the World Car of the Year award have been named at the Geneva Motor Show. The winner will be announced at the New York auto show in April. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Depend on the Corolla

A 2005 Toyota Corolla

Second Gear

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
for Metro Canada

MODEL: 2003 to 2006 Toyota Corolla
VEHICLE TYPE: Compact sedan
APPROXIMATE USED PRICE RANGE: $5,500 to $12,000

HISTORY/DESCRIPTION: The Corolla has long been Toyota's "bread and butter" small car for the Canadian masses. Built to be reliable, efficient and cheap to run, it's got a lengthy history of winning awards and being named to "best buy" lists of all kinds.

For its ninth generation, Corolla filled in a place between the Yaris and Camry in Toyota's product portfolio. The Corolla was also made larger and roomier than before, translating to more interior space. Styling was relatively plain, though a visually sporty Corolla 'S' model added some go-fast styling cues. Side and curtain bags were available, along with power accessories, a cabin air filter and a CD player.

Power came from a 1.8 liter four cylinder engine with 126 ponies and 122 lb.-ft of torque.

This base engine employs variable timing for surprisingly peppy performance, as long as it's paired with the five-speed manual transmission and not the four-speed automatic.

A high-performance XRS model was also available, and featured a tuned-up variant of the 1.8-litre engine with 170 horsepower and a six-speed manual.

WHAT OWNERS LIKE: Owners typically say they most enjoy the tidy cabin layout, comfort, handling and safety of their Corollas. Gas mileage is rated highly, too. Owners of the Corolla XRS also enjoy a high-performance experience.

WHAT OWNERS HATE: Owner gripes centre mainly around bland and generic styling, and some wish for more performance from the four-cylinder engine /automatic transmission combination.

COMMON ISSUES: Corolla's reputation for reliability means that common issues are few and far between — but like every used car, there are at least a few issues to be aware of.

Some owners have reported having to change their catalytic converter far before its expected life was over. Apparently, the bill to replace a catalytic converter is a hefty one.

Other owners report random illumination of the check-engine light — which could indicate a number of sensor or emissions-system problems. If you see a check engine light on your test drive, be sure to find out why it's there.

Remember that an exceptional deal is often too good to be true.

As such, scrutinize the condition of any used Corolla's tires and brakes to ensure the former owner isn't trying to pass off a big expense on you.

If you're not mechanically inclined, ask a friend or your favorite mechanic for help.

Kill the stereo system and listen for any abnormal noises coming from beneath the car when cornering or travelling over bumps at various speeds. Clunking, snapping or popping noises are all potential signs of worn out suspension parts that will need attention.

THE VERDICT: Though priced at a premium, a clean, well-maintained and well cared for Corolla is one of the used car market's most reliable and sensible small cars.

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2010 ACCORD LX TURN-KEY PRICE‡ $26,475 For Accord LX Sedan Includes Freight & Fees LEASE FOR /APR $248# @2.9%£ PER MONTH FOR 48 MONTHS WITH $5,286 DOWN ON APPROVED CREDIT
2010 CR-V LX 2WD TURN-KEY PRICE‡ $28,015 For CR-V LX 2WD Includes Freight & Fees LEASE FOR /APR $268# @2.9%£ PER MONTH FOR 48 MONTHS WITH $5,083 DOWN ON APPROVED CREDIT
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‡Limited time lease offers based on new 2010 Honda models. Lease examples based on new 2010 Civic DX Sedan, model FA1E2AEX / 2010 Accord LX Sedan, model CP2E3AE / 2010 CR-V LX 2WD, model RE3H3AEY available through Honda Financial Services on approved credit. Offer ends March 31st, 2010. Lease payment is $148 weekly, $641 monthly, $1,926 every 3 months, $3,852 every 6 months, $7,704 every 12 months. Total lease obligation is $12,237.90 / $19,539.70 / $26,415.11. Taxes, license, insurance and lien registration (if applicable) are extra. 96,000 kilometre allowance; charge of $0.12/km for excess kilometres. Retailer order / trade may be necessary. ‡Limited time financing offers based on new 2010 Honda models. Finance example based on new 2010 Civic DX Sedan, model FA1E2AEX available through Honda Financial Services on approved credit. ‡MSRP is $17,420 (TURN-KEY Centre Honda PRICE). Taxes, license, insurance and lien registration (if applicable) are extra. Dealer may sell or lease for less. Dealer order / trade may be necessary. £Leasing is 48 months, 96,000 kilometers, $0 security deposit. Lease payment is $148 weekly, $641 monthly. Total lease obligation is $12,237.90. Taxes, license, insurance and lien registration (if applicable) are extra. Dealer may sell or lease for less. Dealer order / trade may be necessary. #Finance example based on new 2010 Honda models. Finance example based on new 2010 Civic DX Sedan, model FA1E2AEX. Cost of borrowing is $4,162.14. Total obligation is $21,582.14. Taxes, license, insurance and lien registration (if applicable) are extra. Dealer may sell or finance for less. Dealer order / trade may be necessary. Offer ends March 31st, 2010 at Centre Honda. Offers valid only for Ontario residents at Centre Honda. Offers subject to change or cancellation without notice. See your Centre Honda retailer for full details. NHL and the NHL Shield are registered trademarks of the National Hockey League. ©NHL 2010. All rights reserved.

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$15,540‡ PURCHASE PRICE AND 0% FINANCE APR‡‡
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2010 RIO EX SHOWN
$11,450‡ PURCHASE PRICE AND 0 % FINANCE APR‡‡
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Winner of the Canadian ALG 2010 Residual Value Award – Entry Compact Car Category[1]

2010 RESIDUAL VALUE AWARD alg ALG AWARD WINNER

★★★★★ 5-STAR RATING FOR FRONT-IMPACT CRASH SAFETY 2

0% FINANCING

2010 REDESIGNED
ALTIMA SEDAN 2.5 S CVT

0% PURCHASE FINANCING FOR UP TO 36 MONTHS*

CITY: 8.7L/100KM (32 MPG)
HWY: 6.0L/100KM (47 MPG)▲▲

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www.nissan.ca/altima

175-hp, 2.5-litre DOHC engine, Xtronic CVT® • Nissan Intelligent Key® with Push Button Ignition • Standard ABS, Vehicle Dynamic Control (VDC), and Traction Control System (TCS) • Nissan Advanced Six Airbag System • Available 270-hp, 3.5-litre DOHC engine • Available Bluetooth® wireless technology‡ • Available RearView Monitor

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0% purchase financing for up to 60 months available on 2010 Sentra and up to 36 months on 2010 Altima Sedan (excluding Hybrid) models. Representative finance example based on Selling Price of $16,657 for 2010 Sentra 2.0 (CALGB0 AA00), including freight and PDE ($1,325), $5 OMVIC fee, $29 tire stewardship fee, and $100 air conditioning tax at 0% APR for 60 months equals $194.28 per month with $5,000 down payment or equivalent trade-in. Cost of borrowing is $0 for a total obligation of $16,657. License, insurance, registration, and other applicable taxes (including GST, PST and $75 tax for fuel conservation) are extra. Finance offers are available on approved credit through Nissan Canada Finance for a limited time, may change without notice and cannot be combined with any other offers. Retailers are free to set individual prices. ▲Model shown $24,557 Selling Price for a new 2010 Sentra 2.0 SL (CAGB0 AA00), CVT transmission$33,432 Selling Price for a new 2010 Altima Sedan 3.5 SR (T4SG10 AA00), CVT transmission and includes $1,325/$1,400 freight and PDE, $5 OMVIC fee, $29 tire stewardship fee, and $100 air conditioning tax. License, insurance, registration, and other applicable taxes (including GST, PST and $75/$75 tax for fuel conservation) are extra. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Offer is for a limited time, may change without notice and cannot be combined with any other offers. All prices are subject to change without notice. Retailer may sell for less. ▲▲Actual mileage may vary with driving conditions - use for comparison only. The 2010 Sentra is winner of the Canadian ALG Residual Value Award – Entry Compact Car category. [1]Government star ratings are part of the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) New Car Assessment Program (www.safercar.gov). U.S. model tested. Please see www.safercar.gov for up to date information. [2]The Nissan Altima received the lowest number of problems per 100 vehicles among midsize cars in the proprietary J.D. Power and Associates 2009 U.S. Initial Quality Study℠ Study based on responses from 80,930 U.S. new-vehicle owners, measuring 246 models and measures opinions after 90 days of ownership. Proprietary study results are based on experiences and perceptions of owners surveyed in February/May 2009. Your experiences may vary. Visit jdpower.com. [3]"J.D. Power and Associates 2009 U.S. Initial Quality Study℠ Study based on responses from 80,930 U.S. new-vehicle owners, measuring 246 models and measures opinions after 90 days of ownership. Proprietary study results are based on experiences and perceptions of owners surveyed in February/May 2009. Your experiences may vary. Visit jdpower.com. †iPod is a registered trademark of Apple, Inc. All rights reserved. iPod not included. ‡XM® Satellite Radio is available in the 10 Canadian provinces and the 48 contiguous U.S. Basic monthly subscription required and sold separately after trial period. Subscription subject to customer agreement at xmradio.ca. All fees and programming subject to change. ™2009 XM Satellite Radio Inc. The XM name and related logos are registered trademark of XM Satellite Radio Inc. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners. ‡"The Bluetooth word mark and logos are owned by Bluetooth SIG, Inc., and any use of such marks by Nissan is under licence. ■Preferred Customer Program: If you currently lease or finance your Nissan vehicle through us, you may already be pre-approved to lease or finance your next new Nissan model. 1% Preferred Customer Reduction currently available on the 2010 Sentra, Rogue, Murano and Altima (except hybrid) models. Please contact your Nissan Dealership for Nissan Canada Finance pre-approval terms and eligibility.

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0% PURCHASE FINANCING†
PLUS NO PAYMENTS FOR 90 DAYS**
ON ALL 2010 MODELS

2010 MAZDA 3 SEDAN
0% purchase financing† up to 60 months | well equipped from $17,390* | Offer Includes: Freight.....$840 P.D.E.....$555
GT model shown
Canada's Best-Selling Passenger Car of 2010‡
TOP SAFETY PICK For DSC-equipped models▼ | Top 10 Best Retained Value Award by Canadian Black Book | BEST NEW CAR UNDER $21k | ★★★★★ HIGHEST GOVERNMENT FRONTAL CRASH SAFETY RATING▲

2010 MAZDA 3 SPORT
0% purchase financing† up to 60 months | well equipped from $18,390* | Offer Includes: Freight.....$840 P.D.E.....$555
GT model shown
Canada's Best-Selling Passenger Car of 2010‡
TOP SAFETY PICK For DSC-equipped models▼ | Top 10 Best Retained Value Award by Canadian Black Book | BEST NEW CAR OVER $21k | ★★★★★ HIGHEST GOVERNMENT FRONTAL CRASH SAFETY RATING▲

2010 MAZDA 5 ★★★★★ HIGHEST GOVERNMENT FRONTAL CRASH SAFETY RATING▲
0% purchase financing† up to 60 months | well equipped from $22,090* | Offer Includes: Freight.....$1,060 P.D.E.....$535
GT model shown
Three-row seating for six

2010 MAZDA 6 ★★★★★ 5-STAR SAFETY TOP-SCORE FRONTAL, ALL-SIDE & ROLLOVER TESTS▼ | 2009 Best New Family Car $22k-$30k
0% purchase financing† up to 60 months | well equipped from $24,790* | Offer Includes: Freight.....$940 P.D.E.....$655
GT-V6 model shown

2010 TRIBUTE ★★★★★ HIGHEST GOVERNMENT CRASH TEST RATING▲
0% purchase financing† up to 60 months | well equipped from $25,045* | Offer Includes: Freight.....$1,060 P.D.E.....$535
GT-V6 model shown

OFFERS END MARCH 31ST

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†0% APR Purchase Financing is available on all new 2010 Mazda vehicles. Based on a representative agreement using an offered pricing of $17,390 (0.3,00/$22,000/$24,790/$25,045) for the new 2010 Mazda3 GX (04053AA00)/2010 Mazda3 Sport GX (04056AA00)/2010 Mazda5 GS (04063AA00)/2010 Mazda6 GS-V6 (04066AA00)/2010 Mazda Tribute GX-4 (04064AA00) with a financed amount of $15,000/$15,000/$20,000/$25,000, the cost of borrowing for a 60/60/60/60-month term is $0, monthly payment is $250/$250/$333/$333, total finance obligation is $15,000/$15,000/$20,000/$20,000/$25,000. ▼Offered Pricing for new 2010 Mazda3 GX (04053AA00)/ 2010 Mazda3 Sport GX (04056AA00)/ 2010 Mazda5 GS (04063AA00)/2010 Mazda6 GS-V6 (04066AA00)/2010 Mazda Tribute GX-4 (04064AA00) is $17,390/$18,390/$22,090/$24,790/$25,045. As shown, MSRP for 2010 Mazda3 GT (04079AA00)/2010 Mazda3 Sport GT (04079AA00)/2010 Mazda5 GT (04070AA00)/ 2010 Mazda6 GT-V6 (04080AA00)/2010 Mazda CX-9 GT (04090AA00)/2010 Mazda Tribute GT-V6 AWD (04072AA00) is $25,590/$25,590/$29,590/$29,590/$30,590. **Payments for 90 days applies to purchase finance offers on new or stock 2010 Mazdas. The purchaser will enjoy principal monthly over the term of the contract, commencing 90 days after contract date. $50 PPSA, $0 OMVIC transaction fee, licence, insurance, taxes, down payment and other dealer charges may be required at the time of purchase. Based on 2010 fuel consumption ratings published by Natural Resources Canada. 2010 Mazda3 2.0 L Mazda3 Sport 2.0 L Mazda5 2.0 L Mazda6 2.0 L Mazda Tribute models tested with standard side-impact air bags (SABs). U.S. Government star ratings are part of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) New Car Assessment Program (www.safercar.gov). Based on Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, ‡ Canada's Best Selling Passenger Car of 2010 – Based on DealerSales Automotive reports for period of January and ending February of 2010. Offers available from March 1, 2010 until March 31, 2010. All offers exclude $50 PPSA, $0 OMVIC transaction fee, licence, insurance, other taxes, down payment. Other dealer charges may be required at the time of purchase. Lease and Finance on approved credit for qualified customers only. Dealer may sell for less. Dealer order may be necessary.

READY TO ROLL MAZDA GRADUATE PROGRAM

inflatable rear seatbelts will be introduced in the 2011 Ford Explorer.

Going inflatable for kids' safety

JIL MCINTOSH
for Metro Canada

Seatbelts can save your life, but they can also potentially cause harm, especially to children or elderly passengers. It's a problem that Ford is addressing with its new inflatable rear seatbelt, which will be the world's first when it's introduced on the 2011 Ford Explorer.

The belt looks similar to a regular seatbelt, except that it feels padded. In a crash, it expands to apply the belt's force over five times as much area as a regular belt, helping prevent injuries such as broken ribs.

"The idea of inflatable seatbelts has been around for over 50 years, but nobody's been able to do it before," says Dr. Steve Rouhana, Ford's senior technical leader for safety. "We tell people to put kids in the back seat, and we wanted to put this in the rear seats for enhanced protection."

The belts' inflation is triggered by the sensor that deploys the front-seat bags, but they don't work quite the same way.

"We tell people to put kids in the back seat, and we wanted to put this in the rear seats for enhanced protection.
Dr. Steve Rouhana of Ford

Frontal airbags explode with considerable force, using a hot gas. The seatbelts use canisters that send cold gas flowing through the centre of the buckle to inflate the airbag that's sewn inside the belt.

While they still expand within milliseconds, the seatbelts don't inflate as quickly as the front bags, as too much sudden pressure could prove harmful to the occupant. The company tested the belt with dozens of child seats to ensure that it is safe for properly-restrained children.

"As the head moves forward in a crash, it tends to go along in an arc," Rouhana says. "When the chin interacts with the inflated portion of the shoulder belt, it starts to slow down. That reduces forces on the neck, and we believe it lowers the possibility of neck injury."

Rouhana's own son unwittingly led to an important safety enhancement. "Early in the project, around 2002, my youngest son was around six," he says.

"We were coming home and I looked in the rearview mirror. He was in a booster seat and the belt was wedged between his neck and shoulder. I saw that and thought, what happens if my inflatable belt goes off with him in that position?

"Young children can get their heads on their shoulders, they're so flexible, and you can't get a (crash test) dummy's neck in that position. So we developed a hinge for the neck of the dummy. Nobody did that before, and that takes a lot of time. We were the first in the world, and hopefully we get credit for that."

Driving Force

Green choices driven by economy: Study

REPORT A study released by U.S. automotive research firm AutoPacific shows that while consideration for alternative fueled vehicles is on the rise, it is often driven by economic forces, rather than consumer desire to help the planet.

"We have witnessed that hybrid consideration increased with fuel price, until people became used to higher fuel prices," says Jim Hossack, vice-president of AutoPacific.

The study, Green Cars and Consumers, Planning for a Changing Market is the result of surveys of more than 32,000 consumers and covers both owners and potential buyers of gas, hybrid, plug-in hybrid, pure electric and clean diesel light vehicles.

Consumers are examined based on many attributes including demographics, psychographics, regular activities and future brand consideration.

FROM CARGUIDE

Purchase Financing as low as 0.9%† FOR 5 YEARS

Civic DX Sedan
model FA1E2AEX

2010 CIVIC DX

TURN-KEY PRICE‡ $17,420
For Civic DX Sedan
Includes Freight & Fees

LEASE FOR /APR **$148# @ 2.9%£**
PER MONTH FOR 48 MONTHS WITH $3,726 DOWN
ON APPROVED CREDIT

Accord LX Sedan
model CP2E3AE

2010 ACCORD LX

TURN-KEY PRICE‡ $26,475
For Accord LX Sedan
Includes Freight & Fees

LEASE FOR /APR **$248# @ 2.9%£**
PER MONTH FOR 48 MONTHS WITH $5,286 DOWN
ON APPROVED CREDIT

CR-V LX 2WD
model RE3H3AEY

2010 CR-V LX 2WD

TURN-KEY PRICE‡ $28,015
For CR-V LX 2WD
Includes Freight & Fees

LEASE FOR /APR **$268# @ 2.9%£**
PER MONTH FOR 48 MONTHS WITH $5,083 DOWN
ON APPROVED CREDIT

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#Limited time lease offers based on new 2010 Honda models. Lease examples based on new 2010 Civic DX Sedan, model FA1E2AEX / 2010 Accord LX Sedan, model CP2E3AE / 2010 CR-V LX 2WD, model RE3H3AEY available through Honda Financial Services on approved credit. £2.9% / 2.9% / 2.9% lease APR for 48 / 48 / 48 months. Monthly payment (includes freight and PDI, environmental fees and OMVIC fee) is $148 / $248 / $268. Down payment or equivalent trade of $3,726 / $5,286 / $5,083, first monthly payment and $0 / $0 /$0 security deposit due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is $12,237.90 / $19,559.70 / $20,415.11. Taxes, license, insurance and lien registration (if applicable) are extra. 96,000 kilometre allowance; charge of $0.12/km for excess kilometres. Retailer may lease for less. Retailer order / trade may be necessary. †Limited time financing offers based on new 2010 Honda models. Finance example based on new 2010 Civic DX Sedan, model FA1E2AEX available through Honda Financial Services on approved credit. ‡MSRP is $17,420 (TURN-KEY PRICE includes $1,430 freight and PDI, and environmental and OMVIC fees) financed at 0.9% APR equals $297.02 per month for 60 months. Cost of borrowing is $401.43 for a total obligation of $17,821.43. Taxes, license, insurance and lien registration (if applicable) are extra. MSRP is $26,475 / $28,015 for a new 2010 Accord LX Sedan, model CP2E3AE / 2010 CR-V LX 2WD, model RE3H3AEY including $1,685 / $1,725 freight and fees. Retailer may sell for less. Retailer order / trade may be necessary. #£/†/‡Offers valid from March 2nd, 2010 through March 31st, 2010 at participating Honda retailers. Offers valid only for Ontario residents at Ontario Honda Dealers. Offers subject to change or cancellation without notice. See your Honda retailer for full details. NHL and the NHL Shield are registered trademarks of the National Hockey League. ©NHL 2010. All rights reserved.

Mercedes steps in for German tour

Mercedes-Benz Canada has provided a Sprinter to the Deutschmobil cross-Canada tour, in which German teachers will visit schools to help Canadian students learn more about one of Canada's important trading partners. CANADIANDRIVER.COM

Wilder Weir, host of Cosmopolitan TV's Oh So Cosmo, is the son of former NHLer Wally Weir.

Wilder about wheels

TV host Weir's Honda Civic was a graduation gift

MyDrive

Heather Buchan

metronews.ca/mydrive

Wilder Weir owns a 2006 Honda Civic similar to this model.

Name: Wilder Weir

Who he is: Television host and the current co-host of Cosmopolitan TV's Oh So Cosmo. He's also the son of former NHL player Wally Weir.

What he drives: I drive a four-door 2006 Honda Civic. It's a very unassuming car, but I love it. It's great on gas. It was a graduation gift from my parents. It's like a cliché, you know, you graduate university and there's a car there with a bow on it. That's what happened. It was a total surprise. I would have taken anything with four wheels.

Have you put many kilometres on your car? I'm from Montreal, so you know, I drive back and forth when I can on the weekend. So, I actually have no idea how many kilometres I've put on it. But lots of road trips.

What kind of driver are you? I try to keep my hands at 10 and two. I'm pretty good. I have a little bit of an aggressive side, but I think that's my Montreal blood. You've gotta be super aggressive in that city sometimes just to get a parking space. But Toronto's pretty good. But I'm not a big road rage guy.

What's your ultimate dream car? I'm a really lazy person, so I think my dream car would be a limo. So the guy would just drive me around everywhere. You know, he'd just pick you up. You don't have to call cabs or anything. He's just waiting out there. The sports cars are cool though.

I got to drive a Lamborghini with ET Canada for a promotion we were doing two years ago. It was super embarrassing because I didn't know how to drive stick at the time. It was tiptronic. I had to drive around Yorkville and it was so nerve-wracking. So after that I thought, 'this is ridiculous. I'm a man and I need to know how to drive stick.' So I learned in the next two weeks.

> **"I wouldn't be able to drive one of those two-seater Porsches. It would have to be something that could fit a snowboard, a hockey bag."**

What's the most important feature in the car for you? I have to be able to fit a hockey bag in it. I wouldn't be able to drive one of those two-seater Porsches. It would have to be something that could fit a snowboard, a hockey bag.

Heather Buchan is a Toronto-based journalist who has worked at Homemakers, Canadian Living, Canadian House & Home and, most recently, Hello! Canada, where she cut her teeth in the world of celebrities.

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$25,486
Custom Car Event -$1,000
Costco Member -$1,000
$23,486

2010 ESCAPE XLT V6
Automatic, Fog Lamps, Cruise Control, Air Cond., Alloy Wheels, Power Group, A.B.S., Air Bags, Very Well Equipped.
0% FINANCE
$26,799
Custom Car Event -$1,000
Costco Member -$1,000
$24,799

2010 FOCUS
Automatic, Air, 60/40 Split Rear Seat, Front and Side Air Bags, Traction Control, Message Centre and More
$15,899
Custom Car Event - $1,000
$14,899

2010 RANGER 4X4 SUPERCAB
$1000 IN NO CHARGE ACCESSORIES
Automatic, 4x4, Alloy Wheels, CD Player, All-Terrain Tires, A.B.S., Air Bags, Air Condition, Very Well Equipped
$18,999
Costco Member -$1,000
$17,999

2010 FORD RANGER SPORT SUPER CAB
$1000 IN NO CHARGE ACCESSORIES
Not A Base Unit! A/C, CD Player, Alloys, ABS, Sport Seats, And Much More!
$14,899
Costco Member -$1,000
$13,899

DEAL OF THE WEEK
2010 FORD F-150 CREW CAB XLT
Best Value around! Powe Group, alum. wheels, V8, auto, A/C, ABS, air bags, cruise control , CD player and more! PLUS $1,000 in no charge accessories!
$1000 in no charge Accessories
$25,999
Costco - $1,000
$24,999

2010 FORD FOCUS
Brand New Automatic & A/C!
Auto, Air, C.D. Player, 60/40 Split Rear Seat, Front And Side Air Bags, Traction Control, Message Centre And More!
$15,899
Custom Car Event -$1,000
$14,899

2010 FORD FUSION SEL
Automatic, Air Cond. A.B.S., Alloys, Power Group, Cruise Control. The List Goes On!
$21,999
Custom Car Event -$1,000
Costco Member -$1,000
$19,999

2010 LINCOLN MKZ
Heated & Cooled Leather Seats, Alloys, Trip Computer, Advance Trac With Roll Stability Control, Front & Side Air Bags, Power Group, Traction/Digital Climate Control & More!
$32,999
Costco Member -$1,000
Custom Luxury Event -$1,000
$30,999

2010 EDGE SEL
ONTARIO BUILT
NOT A BASE MODEL
Dual Digital Climate Control, 18" Alum. Wheels, A.B.S., Front, Side And Curtain Air Bags, Roll Stability Control, Full Power Group Too Much To List!
$28,228
Custom Car Event -$1,000
Costco Member -$1,000
$26,228

QUICK PAYMENT CHART
$0 Down $0 Due
2009 Focus SES
$13,999 - $7.51 per day
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$19,999 - $10.71 per day
2009 Flex SEL
$21,999 - $11.78 per day
All Payments 84 mo. Term, 5.49% Variable Rate, O.A.C.

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NO PAYMENTS UNTIL MAY/10 ON ALL BANK FINANCE AT 5.74% O.A.C.

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Signature limited, chrome wheels Very clean unit with only 20,000KM
$26,999

2008 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS LS
ALMOST NEW! ONLY 600 KM
Moonroof, Chrome Wheels, Heated Seats, Loaded.
$26,999

2009 FORD FOCUS SES
Only 10,000km, alloy wheels, top model, automatic, air condition, front and side air bags, power group and more!
$13,999

2005 FORD LINCOLN LS
1 owner trade, black on black, low kms
$13,999

Whiteoak Ford Lincoln is Close to:
Clarkson GO • Cooksville GO • Dixie GO
Erindale GO • Meadowvale GO
Streetsville GO •Port Credit GO

2009 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA TDI
Rare find, 1 owner trade , only 20,000km, leather, moonroof, summer and winter tires
$25,999

2010 FORD FUSION AWD SPORT
Rare Find, AWD, Leather, Moonroof, Sport Model, 3.5L V6 Loaded, With Only 20,000 Kms
$25,999

2009 MECURY GRAND MARQUIS LS
Dual power seats, alloy wheels, canadian car with only 19,000km
$19,999

2009 FORD FLEX SEL
Low kms,7 passenger, alloy wheels, power group,cd player and much more! balance of factory warranty
$21,999

2009 FORD F-150 CREW CAB 4X4
1 owner trade loaded, navigation, moonroof,retrax tonneau,rhino liner and power everything! only 25,000km
$38,999

*Prices are plus GST and PST only. Receive up to an additional $3,300 discount to Recycle Your Ride if you own a 1995 model or older for more than 6 months. Applies to select models. F.O.C., AXZ plan rules apply. Conquest program applies. If you currently own or lease any Oldsmobile, Pontiac, Saab, Saturn or Hummer vehicle. Receive an additional $1,000.00 if you are a Costco member as of December 18th, 2009. All rebates assigned to dealer.

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2010 Matrix

XR model shown

0% APR¥
Purchase financing for 48 months. **Semi-monthly payment available.**

all-in lease $149[II] @ 1.9% APR
per month for 48 months with $4,025 down with $500 Customer Incentive◇ applied. Includes freight and fees.

$500 CUSTOMER INCENTIVE◇

HWY 6.2L/100 KM (46 MPG)† CITY 7.8L/100 KM (36 MPG)†

2010 Yaris

0% APR¥
Purchase financing for 48 months. **Semi-monthly payment available.**

all-in lease $139[II] @ 3.9% APR
per month for 60 months with $2,800 down with $750 Customer Incentive◇ applied. Includes freight and fees.

$750 CUSTOMER INCENTIVE◇

HWY 5.5L/100 KM (51 MPG)† CITY 6.9L/100 KM (41 MPG)†

2010 Corolla CE

0% APR¥
Purchase financing for 48 months. **Semi-monthly payment available.**

all-in lease $149[II] @ 1.9% APR
per month for 48 months with $3,450 down with $500 Customer Incentive◇ applied. Includes freight and fees.

$500 CUSTOMER INCENTIVE◇

HWY 5.6L/100 KM (50 MPG)† CITY 7.5L/100 KM (38 MPG)†

2010 RAV4

0% APR¥
Purchase financing for 48 months. **Semi-monthly payment available.**

all-in lease $249* @ 3.9% APR
per month for 48 months with $5,450 down. Includes freight and fees.

HWY 6.9L/100 KM (41 MPG)† CITY 9.4L/100 KM (30 MPG)†

V6 limited model shown

CURRENT TOYOTA OWNERS RECEIVE $500 WITH THE TOYOTA LOYALTY PROGRAM.✦

All-in lease includes freight and fees. GST/PST are extra.
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No Security Deposit on 2010 leases.

ONTARIO TOYOTA DEALERS Real people. Great cars.

Limited time lease and finance offers available from Toyota Financial Services on approved credit. ¥0%/0%/0%/0% finance APR per month for 48/48/48/48 months on a new 2010 Matrix (Model KUHEEMA), 2010 Yaris (Model BTPK3MA), 2010 Corolla (Model BU4ZEMA), and 2010 RAV4 (Model ZF4DPA). Example $25,000 at 0% for 48 months, monthly payment is $520. Cost of borrowing is $0 for a total obligation of $25,000. II1.9%/3.9%/1.9% lease APR for 48/60/48 months on a new 2010 Matrix (Model BTPK3MA) and 2010 Corolla (Model BU4ZEMA) priced at $18,014/$16,059/$16,809 when you apply the $500/$750/$500 Customer Incentive monthly payment is $149/$139/$149 with a $4,025/$2,800/$3,450 down payment or trade-equivalent, and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is $11,130/$11,147/$10,609. All-in lease includes freight and fees (PDE, EHF, OMVC fee and air condition tax, where applicable). GST/PST, licensing, registration, insurance and TFFC are extra. Dealer may sell for less. Based on a maximum of 96,000/120,000/96,000 KMS. Additional KM charge of $.07/$.07/$.07 for excess kilometres if applicable. *3.9% lease APR for 48 months on a new 2010 RAV4 (Model ZF4DPA) priced at $26,220. Monthly payment is $249 with a $5,450 down payment or trade equivalent, and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is $17,405. All-in Lease includes freight and fees (PDE, EHF, OMVC fee and air condition tax, where applicable). GST/PST, licensing, registration, insurance and TFFC are extra. Dealer may sell for less. Based on a maximum of 96,000 KMS. Additional KM charge of $.10 for excess kilometres if applicable. ◇$500/$750/$500 Customer Incentive offer valid on retail delivery of new 2010 Matrix, 2010 Yaris, 2010 Corolla when financed, leased or purchased from an Ontario Toyota dealership. Customer Incentive offers take place at time of delivery and will apply after taxes have been charged. Vehicle must be registered and delivered between March 2 and March 31, 2010. ✦Toyota Loyalty Program (TLP) offer is available to current registered owners/lessees of a Toyota branded vehicle (registered and insured in Canada for at least 6 months prior to TLP purchase) or immediate family members with whom they are domiciled, when they purchase/finance/lease and take retail delivery of a new unregistered 09/10 (excluding 2010 4Runner) Toyota branded vehicle between March 2 - March 31, 2010. Proof of current address and registration/insurance/lease required. TCI/TMMC/TCCI employees/contractors and daily rentals are not eligible for TLP offer. Limit of one TLP offer per registered owner per registered vehicle. No more than one TLP offer may be used towards the purchase/lease of a single new vehicle. See your Toyota Dealer to determine if tax applies before or after the application of the offer. †These estimates are based on the Government of Canada's approved criteria and testing methods. The actual fuel consumption of these vehicles may vary. Refer to the Government of Canada publication EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide. All rights are reserved. Dealer may sell/lease for less. Offers are valid between March 2 and March 31, 2010 and are subject to change without notice. Please see your participating Toyota Dealer for full details.

Lexus hybrid coming to New York

The all-new Lexus CT 200h premium compact hybrid will be on display for the first time in North America at the 2010 New York International Auto Show. The sporty and versatile five-door will be Lexus' second dedicated hybrid and fifth hybrid vehicle in the Canadian line-up. METRO NEWS SERVICES

E-Class stunning all the way

JIM ROBINSON
for Metro Canada

When Marcus Breitschwerdt took over as Mercedes-Benz Canada president and CEO six years ago, his background was on the product planning side of the company and he instituted a system of looking at specific Canadian likes and needs as opposed to just accepting whatever the Americans wanted.

Relentlessly using focus groups and customer feedback, the Canadian arm pressed for cars and trucks fitted out differently and the result has been sales increase after increase.

Fine-tuning the product for Canadian tastes means subtle differences even inside a single model range and such is the case of the 2010 E-Class Coupe as opposed to the 2010 E-Class Sedan tested on these pages previously.

Canadians can opt for 18-inch AMG wheels while the V8 gets the standard AMG body styling that is also optional on the V6. The huge Panorama sunroof is also standard as are 10-way power front seats with memory.

The sedan already possesses striking looks but the coupe improves on them with a roofline that swoops back and down before tucking into the rear much like the CLS Sedan. But what makes it work so well is an intriguing fender bulge that adds a sense of muscularity to the rear haunches before it too blends into the roofline at the rear.

There's more to this than just style. The coupe has a co-efficient of drag of 0.24, making it one of the most aerodynamically refined four-seaters on the road today.

More than that, you know this is a Mercedes-Benz from 100 metres away just by the way it looks which is exactly the statement Daimler wants its products to make.

There are two 2010 E-Coupes based on engine size. The first is the E350 with a 3.5-litre DOHC V6 producing 268 hp and 258 lb/ft of torque, while the E550 uses a 5.5-litre DOHC V8 making 382 hp and 381 lb/ft of torque. Fuel consumption figures had not been established at the time of this writing.

Acceleration from 0-100 km/h is 6.4 seconds for the 3.5-litre and 5.6 seconds for the 5.5-litre. Top speed is electronically limited to 210 km/h.

I drove both the gasoline versions plus a not-for-sale-in-Canada (yet) E350 diesel and enjoyed every single minute in this elegant looking package with the power and agility to match.

Like the sedans, the coupe abounds with technological advances.

One I love from the sedan, and a standard feature, is the new Attention Assist drowsiness monitor that keeps an electronic eye on the driver and warns him/her by a series of visual and optical warnings when it's time to take a break.

2010 Mercedes-Benz E-Class Coupe

Type: Luxury Coupe
Price: from $58,600
Engine: 3.5-litre V6 (268 hp, 258 lb/ft); 5.5-litre V8 (382 hp, 391 lb/ft)

Highlights

- Striking, muscular look
- Aerodynamically refined

Stunning from any angle, the 2010 E-Class Coupe is also instantly recognizable from across a football field as a Mercedes-Benz.

Dream Car

The interior of the 2010 Mercedes-Benz E-Class Coupe is a sumptuous mix of the finest materials.

Rate Roulette

Are You Gambling With Your Car Insurance Rate?

What is Rate Roulette?

Roulette is a popular casino game in which players gamble on where a ball will land on a spinning wheel marked with a range of numbers. As long as you play within your limit, the game can be fun, even though the odds are stacked against you picking the winning number. Rate Roulette is a game played by drivers who gamble they will find the lowest rate on their car insurance by sticking with a single insurance company. The difference? Most drivers don't even realize they are playing and gambling with their car insurance rate in the first place, mistakenly figuring they've already picked the lowest rate with their current insurer.

What Are My Chances Of Finding The Lowest Rate?

The odds against you picking the winning number on a single spin of the Roulette wheel are 37 to 1. Sadly, the odds against a driver picking the insurance company with the lowest insurance rate for their profile aren't much better. Why? Because there are over 30 insurance companies to choose from and the rates each of them charge to insure the same driver, with the same car, for the same coverage, can vary by hundreds and even thousands of dollars. Take a look at the table below.

The only way to ensure you pick a winner at Rate Roulette is to play the whole table…and the only way to do that is to SHOP AROUND for the lowest rate. This is where InsuranceHotline.com can help by instantly providing quotes from over 30 insurance companies to find you the lowest rate available – and the service is absolutely FREE to use. It's like gambling without putting up any of your own money!

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Unlike most of its competitors, InsuranceHotline.com does not sell insurance, is not a licensed broker or agent, and is not owned in whole or in part by an insurance company, agent or brokerage. This allows InsuranceHotline.com to be completely unbiased when providing insurance quotes and keeps its focus solely on finding the lowest insurance rates for consumers.

By contrast, most websites offering to "compare insurance quotes" are owned by or affiliated with insurance brokers or agents and are therefore only capable of quoting rates from the limited number of insurance companies they represent, typically no more than 4 or 5.

Start Saving Your Money Now

InsuranceHotline.com tips the odds in your favour by making insurance companies compete for your business. With quotes from over 30 top insurance companies, InsuranceHotline.com is the simplest and easiest way to make sure you aren't overpaying for your car insurance. So don't wait another minute. Go online to InsuranceHotline.com and start saving your money now.

Rate Comparison

Driving Record	Lowest Price	Highest Price	Price Difference
Clean Record	$958	$2,213	$1,255
1 Ticket	$1,018	$2,552	$1,534
1 Accident	$1,849	$3,753	$1,904

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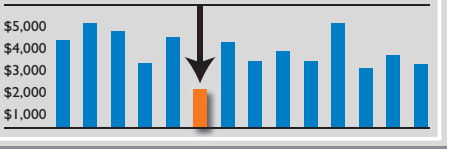

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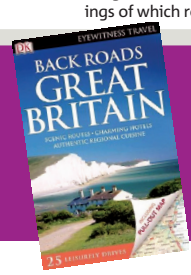
See the sights in Utah

A new guide to some of Utah's most scenic roads can be found on the state Office of Tourism website. The site features listings of which roads to take and what has made them state and national scenic byways. utah.travel. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Travel



Explore Britain's back roads

Compiled by expert travel writers, based full- or part-time in the countries and regions they write about, DK's new Back Roads series uses in-depth local knowledge to create driving tours full of original ideas for activities, off-the-beaten-track stops, and authentically native places to eat and to stay in Great Britain. Back Roads of Great Britain is available on Amazon.com ($28). METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: BEN.RYCROFT@METRONEWS.CA

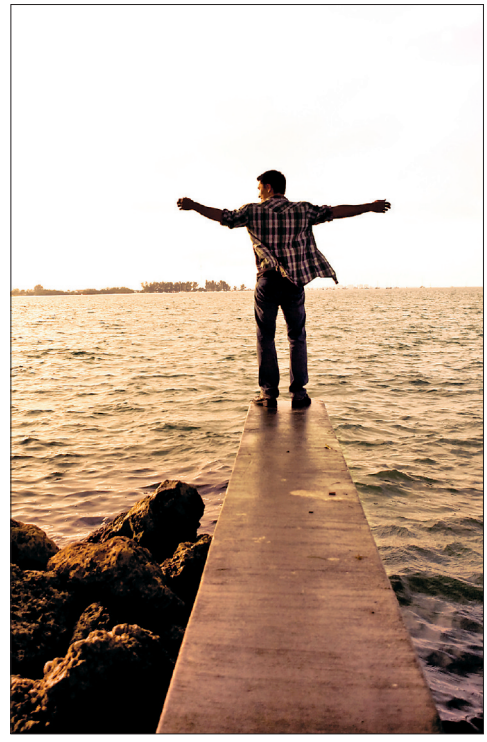
The changing face of Fort Lauderdale

Still a spring break mecca, the face of Florida tourism is working hard to attract families back

DUANE ROLLINS
for Metro Canada

COURTESY OF FORT LAUDERDALE TOURISM

Fort Lauderdale has been quietly working to return itself to a family friendly destination.



Fort Lauderdale is attracting a more mature clientele again.

Fort Lauderdale has come a long way from its hedonistic and infamous past as a Spring Break Mecca.

Today, it is a sophisticated oceanside community that has something for every taste and budget.

Metro has compiled a list of places to eat, drink and be merry in Ft. Lauderdale for any budget.

DAILY BUDGET $50

EAT

Algeria Tacos

It's not much to look at and the owners didn't waste money on decorating the interior, but the fresh ingredients and authentic Mexican menu keeps locals and tourists alike coming back for more. The best part? You can slap down a $10 bill and leave with a full stomach and change in your pocket.

3801 N. Andrews
954-563-7170

STAY

Quiet Waters camp ground

With near perfect weather year-round, camping has become an increasingly popular way to enjoy Ft. Lauderdale and the Quiet Waters camp ground offers travelers a unique and inexpensive alternative to the big chain hotels on the beach. At Quiet Waters, you can rent a platform with a pre-set-up tent, a fire ring and grill, picnic table, electricity and running water. You can even rent a tepee. And, it all goes for just $40 a night.

401 S. Powerline Rd
(954-360-1315)
broward.org/parks/qw.htm

GO

Fort Lauderdale Beach

You go to Florida for the sun and sand and you won't be disappointed by Fort Lauderdale Beach. With more than two miles of supervised public beachfront, and loads of people watching opportunities, a stroll down "The Strip" will be a highlight of your stay.

DAILY BUDGET $100

EAT

Cafe Seville

A staple of Fort Lauderdale dining for more than 20 years the family-run and Spanish-influenced Cafe Seville has one of the best wine lists in South Florida. Its intimate setting provides a perfect romantic break during your trip — but, book ahead or you may end up disappointed.

Oakland Park Blvd
954-565-1148
cafeseville.com

STAY

Green Island Inn

Located in a quiet residential neighbourhood a little further north of most of Fort Lauderdale's hotels the family owned Green Island Inn is a gem at any price. For as little as $50 a night it's deal that can't be beat. It's a short walk to the ocean, stunningly landscaped and a perfect destination for families.

Luxury hotels are everywhere.

3300 NE 27th St.
954-566-8951
greenislandinn.com

GO

Spirit of Lauderdale Catamaran

It isn't a trip to Fort Lauderdale without spending at least some time on the ocean, experiencing the coastline while breathing the sea air and enjoying a cold beverage.

The Spirit of Lauderdale crew offers visitors all of that, along with an intimate knowledge of the history (and current gossip) of the city, for just $30 per person.

Ask about their Canadian discount.

801 Seabreeze Blvd
1-800-979-3370

DAILY BUDGET $500

EAT

Mai-Kai Restaurant and Polynesian Show

It isn't highbrow, but it is everything that people have come to expect from a Florida vacation. The Mai-Kai Restaurant and Polynesian Show is over the top, tourist oriented and generally quite loud, but it's also a whole lot of fun, popular with locals too and isn't loud what you're looking for in a vacation anyway?

There is a reason it's been a Fort Lauderdale landmark since 1956. It will cost you about $80 a person to fully experience the dinner and show.

305-947-9052
maikai.com

STAY

W Fort Lauderdale

The Strip's newest and most decadent luxury hotel won't be cheap — rates start at about $250 a night. But, it does offer an enticing mix of elite dining, world class pampering and ample amounts of beautiful people dancing the night away.

954-414-8200
wfortlauderdalehotel.com

GO

Sawgrass Recreation Park

Get close and personal with some of Florida's most famous — and dangerous — wildlife at the Sawgrass Recreation Park. Avoid the crowds by booking a private tour of the park, which includes a hour-long airboat ride deep into gaiter country and full access to the wildlife displays, where you can see Florida Cougars and hold a baby alligator in your hand. Up to four can experience it for just over $300.

1006 N. U.S. Highway 27
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Showcasing Latin American art

Latin American artists will showcase works ranging from a mural chiselled out of vinyl and a large-scale reproduction of the first ever particle accelerator during a month-long Denver event that Mayor John Hickenlooper said will highlight the Western Hemisphere's common heritage. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Follow the Whisky Trail in Scotland

Speyside invites visitors to take in lush landscape while touring dozens of distilleries

PAUL BALDWIN
Metro World News

There are five million people in Scotland. And every year, 524,009,191 million litres of whisky are produced in their name.

That's more than 100 litres for every Scotsman, Scotswoman and indeed Scotschild.

Not impressed?

Try this: Scotland is one of the world's key producers of offshore oil. But if you lined up the 520 million barrels pumped out of the North Sea in 2009 alongside the bottles of whisky coming off the distillery production lines it would take you longer to count the Scotch.

So, not surprisingly, it's kind of a big deal around here. But while the black gold is produced in deeply unpleasant conditions the bottled gold is lovingly created in some of the prettiest countryside on the planet and in some of the quaintest workplaces imaginable.

Even the bigger Speyside distilleries seem to be from another age and their weird copper stills closer to the industrial revolution than the digital revolution.

And then there's the pride. Each distillery (and there were 71 at last count) believes, with an unshakeable conviction, that their whisky is the finest in the world.

You can see the effects of this everywhere on the Whisky Trail.

The Glen Grant distillery for example is almost surgically clean (the five-year-old is a gem by the way) as if any settled dust would be an insult to the drink, while even the Glenfiddich distillery (the biggest, and slightly frowned on by whisky snobs) has the appearance of a particularly well-appointed Braveheart village.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Picture perfect trails await those who choose to travel Scotland's Whisky Trail.

520 Every year 520 million litres of whisky is produced in Scotland. That's more than 100 litres for every Scot.

And all this, remember, in the heart of the Scottish Highlands where every misty, heather-clad crag conjures images of clansmen knocking lumps out of each other with improbably sized broadswords.

It's very beautiful.

If there's a catch, then it is this. You can't really do the Trail without a car — the public transport is challenging to say the least.

And you can't really do the whisky with a car.

Fortunately Speyside has more than enough pubs and hotel bars whose shelves are positively groaning under the weight of scotch. So enjoy the history, marvel at the simplicity of the process, be charmed by the Scots, then dump the car and get the barman to pour you a large one.

Think of it as your own personal whisky trail ...

METRO WORLD NEWS

At last count there were 71 whisky distilleries in Scotland.

Know your drink

- There are an estimated 2,500 Scotch whiskies. Taking time to select the one which is right for you is part of the joy. This is part history (every distillery has its own folklore), part geography (Islay malts are the generally the smoky ones, Speysides the more rounded) part aesthetics (the look and feel of a bottle and its label are important) and part economics.
- To water or not to water— it is a hotly contended issue among Scotch drinkers. Some say whisky is designed to be watered to bring out its full qualities, others that it is made to be drunk neat.
- It's important to acknowledge the drink by inhaling the aromas — which can be quite feisty. The nose is almost as powerful a sense as the actual taste. Don't feel you have to put a name to the aroma just enjoy the whole experience.
- Finally take a nip — enough to coat the tongue well, so the that sweet flavours are picked up on the tip of the tongue, sour and salt flavours by the sides and bitter flavours at the back. It takes time so hold the drink awhile.
- It's been said that a quality single malt should taste like an angel crying on your tongue. That's a big claim but there is no doubt that there is no drink like it in the world. Few drinks are so well crafted, imbued with so much history and so much part of a national culture.

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Obama trying to stimulate U.S. travel

President Barack Obama has signed a bill creating a program to promote the U.S. as a premier tourism destination for international travellers. The U.S. welcomed 2.4 million fewer overseas visitors last year than in 2000. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cologne excites the senses

Metro's guide of what to do, see and eat in a classic German city

CÉLIA PEDROSO
Metro World News

In Cologne, you can feel quite relaxed walking by the Rhine or with a Kölsch in your hand.

This German city will excite all of your senses.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Cologne's skyline offers spectacular photo opportunities at night.

Cologne's bratwurst is a must-try when you visit.

SEE
The cathedral and the museums

The Kölner Dom survived the severe bombings of the Second World War. When visiting this gothic masterpiece don't forget to climb the staircase up to the tower, unless you suffer from vertigo. Also don't miss the Museum Ludwig with an important Pop Art Collection and the City Museum where you'll see why Eau is de Cologne…

HEAR
Summerjam Festival

Cologne has Europe's largest reggae, dancehall and World Music festival. The Summerjam Festival brings Caribbean colours and rhythms to Cologne, between July 2 and 4. All year long enjoy classical music, pop or jazz at Kölnarena, Musical Dome and endless clubs. The central clubbing scene is around Zülpicher Street and Luxemburger Street.

Bratwurst, beer and beats

TASTE
Bratwurst or Hämmche

Try bratwurst (sausage) or the brahauswurst (sausage in brewery style) and sauerkraut at the old brewery Früh, near the Dom. Friendly and busy, there you'll feel the true spirit of a bierhaus with simple food and local specialities for the adventurous like Kölsche Kaviar (black pudding with onions) or Hämmche (boiled knuckle of pork).

DRINK
Kölsch

In the country where beer rules, each region has its own kind of brewing beer. Kölsch can be found only in Cologne and is very tasty and light. However be careful: It's also the name of the local language, so Kölsch can be either spoken or drunk

WEAR
A camera

Not only because the city is visually amazing but because Cologne is Germany's Hollywood, especially for crime TV series.

DO
Shopping

Pedestrian Hohe Street is a one mile heaven for shopping, with department stores, while the Belgian Quarter has shops of designers and off-mainstream fashion. Bring your credit card.

Kölsch beer is brewed locally in Cologne.

DON'T
Go to the Wrong Side

The banks alongside the Rhine couldn't be more different in Cologne. The left side, with the city centre and the Old Town, has it all. The right side has a shadowy existence. Cologners even call it the Schäl Sick, or the Wrong Side.

SAY
Dat es Kappes!

If you want to mingle and look like a local say something in Kölsch, the dialect of Cologne. Dat es Kappes! is a funny and non-offensive way of saying 'that is stupid.'

DON'T SAY
Alt

Don't ask for an alt in Cologne. That's the beer brewed in the neighbor city Dusseldorf. So choose wisely: Kölsch bitte.

Summer festivals are the norm in Cologne.

Win a trip to Virginia

The Virginia Tourism Corp. is offering families a chance to win a free vacation in the commonwealth. The agency kicked off a new promotion last week at the Science Museum of Virginia in Richmond. Virginia.org/family. METRO NEWS SERVICES

METRO WORLD NEWS

Sailing opportunities abound in Marseille's port.

France's classic architecture is found throughout Marseille.

Open ports and open hearts

Marseille bucks the French trend and makes visitors feel welcome

ROMINA MCGUINNESS
Metro World News

Marseille is a city of endless possibilities.

The French may not have the most welcoming reputation, but it's hard to not feel at home in Marseille. Metro has found places to eat, see and stay for every budget.

DAILY BUDGET $50

EAT

Bar de la Marine

Marius, the cult novel by Provence native Marcel Pagnol, was filmed and scenes were shot here. Facing the eerie old port, it's perfect snack of spicy mussels and a beer.

STAY

Hotel Le Corbusier

Boasting an open-air gym on the roof, tennis courts and a solarium, the futuristic hotel is great for people who want everything in one place.

80 Boulevard Michelet
hotellecorbusier.com

SEE

Quartier du Panier

On the narrow streets of the city's oldest quarter you'll see where the Greeks once built their temples.

Find the Neo-Byzantine statue of 'Notre Dame de la Garde' for panoramic views over the city.

DAILY BUDGET $100

EAT

L'Entrecôte du Port

It's hard to avoid the tourist traps that line the old port but hidden in a side street is this gem of a restaurant which serves simple French classics like steak frites.

6 quai du Rive Neuve

STAY

Relais de la Magdeleine

Built at the foot of a craggy mountain range of Sainte Baume, this cozy guest-house is perfect for the beach.

relais-magdeleine.com

METRO WORLD NEWS

Marseille, the second largest city in France still has that small-town feeling.

Marseille

- Marseille is the most populous commune in France after Paris and is the centre of the third largest metropolitan area in France. It is surrounded by small fishing villages.

GO

Arab quarter

Head for the Arab quarter along Rue d'Aubagne and Dominicaine for spices, roasted nuts, dried fruit or even heavy scented musks. There's also the odd dishwasher and wedding dress on sale.

DAILY BUDGET $500

EAT

Le Ruhl

Come here for Bouillabaisse at its best. Chef Alex Galligani serves up the traditional fish dish to perfection.

For the foodies, there is the option to add lobster to this fisherman's staple.

STAY

Le Petit Nice

Two private 19th century villas transformed into lavish seaview hotel. Rooms are literary themed and breakfast is a joy.

Corniche Président-J.-F.-Kennedy
petitnice-passedat.com/

GO

Calanques

The jagged coast between the fishing village of Cassis and Marseille is where the cool locals sunbathe.

Accessible only by foot or boat, the white cliffs of Port Pin or d'En Vau, are the most magical spots.

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Coming into bloom

Those famous pink and white cherry blossoms in Washington are expected to bloom on schedule on trees around the U.S. capital as soon as the end of March, the National Park Service predicted this week. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Hunting for the hobbits

Fossil find leads to influx of tourists chasing legends in Flores

I started hearing the offers soon after arriving at the Liang Bua cave in the mountains of Flores island in Indonesia.

"You want to see a living hobbit?" a guard at the cave whispered. "I can take you there but it will cost 500,000 rupiah (about $55)."

Kornelis Jaman was referring to the dwarf cave-dwellers, whose skeletal remains were discovered in the cave. Scientists believe they went extinct 17,000 years ago, but villagers with an eye for profit insist the hobbits hung around until at least 300 years ago and their descendants are still living in nearby villages.

The Ebu Gogo or "the grandmother who eats everything," has for generations played the role of villain in Flores folklore. They are described as big-eyed, hairy creatures who came down the mountain to steal, crops, fruit and liquor.

The discovery of the remains in the Liang Bua cave in 2003 put the Flores excavation on the map. Suddenly, a steady stream of fossil enthusiasts was turning up, and hobbit tours began.

Rampasasa, a tiny farming village just a few kilometres from the cave, became a popular stop. Supposedly there were as many as two dozen tiny people living there.

ACHMAD IBRAHIM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Workers labor at the Liang Bua cave where the remains of Homo floresiensis were discovered.

Scientists at the dig site laughed at the mention of Rampasasa and said there were no hobbits there. But I had to see for myself, so photographer Achmad Ibrahim negotiated a fee of 150,000 rupiah (about $16) and off we went.

Legends bringing in the loot

Rampasasa was typically poor, with crumbling wooden homes and a one-lane dirt road pockmarked with rocks which ran through the village. We were escorted to a room with shiny, blue wallpaper, plastic flowers and sketches of the hobbits on the wall. This was where the promised hobbit meeting would take place.

Soon enough, 80-year-old Viktor Jehabut appeared in the doorway. He was definitely short — about four feet tall.

"There are a lot of people like him here," said Jaman, our tour guide. "Maybe they are related with the hobbits in the cave."

But Jehabut looked like an ordinary person, just shorter. He sat down, clutched my hand and began regaling me with tales of the hobbit in his native Manggarai language. He spoke of the hobbits' thieving ways and how they could disappear into thin air when threatened. You could cut them, he said, and they wouldn't bleed.

But when asked whether he was related to the hobbits, Jehabut smiled, revealing his one tooth, and acknowledged it wasn't true. He said they were just very poor and looking to capture the attention.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A skull of a Homo floresiensis, also known as the hobbit.

Tourists have been flocking to Flores since the finding.

Airfares are up, hotel rates down

Average airfares for spring break are up from last year but hotel rates are down, according to Travelocity. Travelocity found average airfares are up nine per cent while hotel prices are down three per cent. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Last-minute escape for skiers

ROMINA MCGUINNESS
Metro World News

There's beautiful, then there's staggeringly.

And Val Gardena, France, tucked away in a quiet corner of the Dolomites, is very definitely in the latter category.

It makes it's nearby Val d'Isere and Courchevel look expensive and a bit past their best by comparison. Think Keira Knightley standing next to Sophia Loren and Raquel Welch.

The snow-capped soaring peaks of Alpine limestone are routinely used by movie directors as a dramatic backdrop — most famously in the Sylvester Stallone film Cliffhanger.

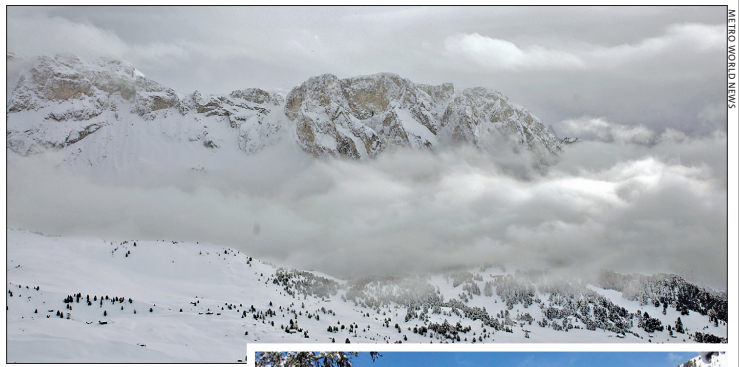
And go soon because the rest of the world is finally realizing what a steal a week in Val Gardena can be.

The peaks can look fearsome on approach but they are actually quite manageable — but there is a choice of hardcore runs if that's your thing.

And there are lots of cute little villages to explore, connected by 460 kilometres of on-piste skiing.

Accommodation is noticeably cheaper than comparable areas in other Alpine resorts as is food and wine. Costs are less than 50 per cent of similar French resorts.

For an upmarket feel try Hotel Nives (hotelnives.com) where prices start from around $112 per night, or for standard but nonetheless impressive B&B try Garni Ortles Angelo where double rooms start from around $42.



METRO WORLD NEWS

The Dolomites of France.

Skiers looking for one last run should consider Val Gardena.

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Budget airlines taking flight in Europe

Budget airlines in Europe gained 13 million more passengers last year, with cheaper prices pulling in customers amid an overall drop in air travel. Ryanair and easyJet led the way with an 8.7 per cent increase. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Many options in Myrtle

Myrtle Beach, S.C., has a reputation as a family beach — a workingman's destination where a week of sun and fun with the kids won't break the bank.

In a time of layoffs, high unemployment and recession, that makes the Grand Strand — the almost 100 kilometres of shoreline from Georgetown, S.C. to the North Carolina state line — especially attractive.

The area offers a bit of everything: Weathered beach bungalows at Pawleys Island and mom-and-pop hotels amid pricier high-rise condos in Myrtle Beach; amusement parks where you pay by the ride; and golf challenges ranging from tilting at mini-golf windmills to making the green on windswept layouts winding through stands of oak. But the main attraction is, and always has been, the beach.

Festival season along the Grand Strand includes concerts, parades and other free events, kicking off with the annual Canadian-American Days Festival, March 13-21— which is only fitting, since Canadians and other Northerners are the only ones in the water that early in the year. The Sun Fun Festival takes place in June and the Beach Boogie and BBQ Festival winds up the season at Labour Day.

And with almost 100 kilometres of coastline, it's not hard, or expensive, to find a room with a view of the water or one within a block or two of the shore. Many hotels in spring and fall offer specials, giving visitors a free night or two if they stay a specified number of nights.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BRUCE SMITH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Flocking to Barbados
A total of 63,826 Canadians visited Barbados in 2009, boasting an 11.2 per cent increase from the previous year. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Gothic allure to Prague

Artists, writers, musicians drawn to Czech capital

JAN JARVIS
Metro World News

As the epicentre of Bohemia, Prague has been a magnet for artists, rebels, and intellectuals for centuries.

The city's position on the river Vltava in the Czech Republic places it at the geographical centre of Europe, making it a natural crossroads for scores of cultures from the east and the west.

And the glittering intellectual and rebel tradition of Prague, which made it a favourite of artists, writers and musicians from Mozart to Kafka, can still be felt today, seemingly written into the DNA of the city. The Czech capital's counter-cultural heritage dates back to the 15th century when dissenting ideas helped spark the Reformation. Its continued ability to remain a byword for bohemian cool in the 21st century has made it one of the most popular tourist destinations in Europe.

METRO WORLD NEWS
Part of Prague's allure is its Old World architecture.

Flights and prices

- For flights, prices, times and bookings, see czechairlines.com.

From its exhilarating blend of architecture, classic gothic spires nestling alongside brutal cubist facades, to its smoky jazz haunts, kooky cocktail bars and scores of opera, ballet and drama theatres Prague has a sense of artistic style matched by few other cities. And those of us who live here know how to get the best of out of it for the least amount of cash — so just ask anyone.

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Canadian-friendly entry
The Dominican Republic will maintain its current entry requirements, which do not require a passport. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Red Sea of comfort

Makadi Bay the latest all-inclusive resort hot spot

BRIONY WARDEN
Metro World News

As a seasoned traveller sometimes you feel the need to grab your GPS, pull on your boots and head for the nearest mountain with a point to prove.

And then sometimes you feel the need to lie in the sun, motionless and surrounded by luxury, for a week. Possibly two. And possibly with even more of a point to prove.

If it's the latter then the Red Sea, or more specifically, Makadi Bay, Egypt is for you.

About 30 kilometres south of the very bustling and slightly rundown Hurghada city, this man-made holiday playground is fast becoming the jewel in the Red Sea Riviera's crown.

Admittedly there's not much in the way of 5000-year-old Egyptian culture, in fact most of the hotels have barely been around for 5,000 days, but that's not the point. It's self-contained, pedestrianized, and fringed by soft pearly sands, twinkling azure waters and in the background, the fiery crimson hues of the Red Sea Mountains. It's basically paradise found for sunbathers, serenity-seekers and water-sports addicts.

And of course this being the Red Sea the diving is spectacular.

Even if you have never pulled on Scuba gear before you really have to here.

Most of the hotels are of a similar standard — modern, air-conditioned and generally quiet.

Consider the Domina Makadi Bay Hotel & Resort which is great for families, the Makadi Palace with its faux Moorish architecture and four excellent pools, or the Grand Makadi for great value all inclusives.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Makadi Bay has been the subject of a massive build recently.

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Guilty of extorting money from Crawford

A German man who tried to blackmail supermodel Cindy Crawford with a photo of her bound and gagged seven-year-old daughter was sentenced to two years in jail. Edis Kayalar, 26, stole the photo from a nanny, who took the picture during a game of cops and robbers. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Entertainment

Family feud

Oscar winner Mo'Nique says she has banished her brother from her life — because he refuses to acknowledge her allegations that he sexually abused her as a child. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Spring reveals hidden gems

Hollywood warming up for blockbuster season

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

The months leading up to summer's barrage of blockbusters are a lot like the season of spring itself — blooming with potential. Perhaps that's what makes springtime so exciting: It's a chance for audiences to experience Hollywood's most unheeded hidden gems.

Featuring Greek gods, money-mad investors, lost cowpokes and a classic horror icon, this year's crop of cinematic seedlings should share no less enthusiasm than their summer companions. Here are a few highlights of 2010's Spring Movie Preview:

Chloe (Mar. 26): This thriller will turn heads with its tale about a sexually charged love triangle between Liam Neeson, Julianne Moore and Amanda Seyfried (Dear John).

The Last Song (Mar. 31): Pop superstar Miley Cyrus takes on novelist Nicolas Sparks (The Notebook) in "a story of family, friendship, secrets and salvation." Although that also sounds like a description of Hannah Montana, it's not that. Trust me.

Clash of the Titans (April 2): In this highly anticipated remake of the 1981 hit, the son of Zeus must save Earth from the god of the underworld and a giant scorpion. And you thought the earwigs were a problem in your apartment.

Date Night (April 9): Tina Fey and Steve Carell bring the funny to the big-screen in this mistaken-identity comedy about a bored couple running from the mafia. Watch for appearances by Mila Kunis and Mark Wahlberg.

Piranha 3-D (April 16): Based loosely on a 1978 horror hit, this three-dimensional shocker explores everybody's favourite flesh-eating freshwater fish.

Kick-Ass (April 16): Perhaps the sleeper hit of the spring, this unlikely superhero comedy has been gaining plenty of excitement on the Internet. Then again, that kind of buzz backfired for Snakes on a Plane.

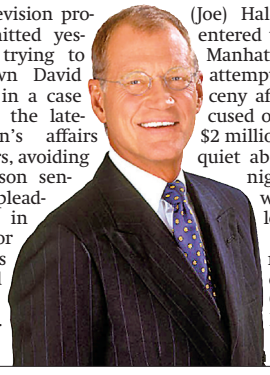
Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps (April 23): Director Oliver Stone breaks finance wizard Gordon Gekko (Michael Douglas) from prison in this sequel to the captivating 1987 drama that previously won Douglas an Academy Award.

Gunless (April 30): Paul Gross (Passchendaele) plays a belligerent American outlaw lost in a sleepy Canadian hamlet in this western comedy.

Nightmare on Elm Street (April 30): Finally, yes, creepy Freddy Krueger returns to haunt your dreams. Let's hope he doesn't stink up the theatre while he's at it.

Highlights of the spring movie season include Clash of the Titans (April 2), left, and Kick-Ass (April 16), above.

Accused pleads guilty in Letterman case



LEGAL A television producer admitted yesterday to trying to shake down David Letterman in a case that bared the late-night icon's affairs with staffers, avoiding a long prison sentence by pleading guilty in exchange for six months in jail and community service.

Robert (Joe) Halderman, 52, entered the plea in a Manhattan court to attempted grand larceny after being accused of demanding $2 million US to keep quiet about the late-night comic's workplace love life.

Halderman, a producer for CBS' 48 Hours Mystery, had mined information from reading his then- girlfriend's diary entries about her relationship with Letterman, her boss, authorities said.

The Manhattan district attorney's office said the debt-strapped Halderman threatened to ruin Letterman's reputation, disguising his demands as a deal for a thinly veiled screenplay about the comedian.

"In September of 2009, I attempted to extort $2 million from David Letterman by threatening to disclose personal and private information about him, whether true or false," Halderman said in court, reading a prepared statement at first so quickly that Manhattan state Supreme Court Justice Charles Solomon asked him to slow down.

Halderman acknowledged delivering the threat to Letterman's driver, in the form of a screenplay outline, or "treatment."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pink Floyd takes EMI to court over royalties

MUSIC Pink Floyd has begun legal action against music label EMI Group Ltd. over the way royalty payments are calculated in the digital era.

The group's lawyer, Robert Howe, told the High Court that the band was disputing the way royalties for online sales are worked out.

He said the group also wants a ruling on whether EMI can sell tracks "unbundled" from their original albums. Howe said the band's contract prohibits selling tracks "otherwise than in the original configuration of the Pink Floyd albums." EMI claims the rule applies only to physical albums, not the Internet.

Pink Floyd signed with EMI in 1967 and became one of its most lucrative acts. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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—Toronto Star

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Artists of the Ballet in *Swan Lake*. Photo by David Cooper.

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He works hard for the money — and so should you

Comedian Ricky Gervais insists that people should work hard for their money and he wouldn't want to make anyone's life easier by bequeathing them his cash, so would rather donate to charitable organizations which care for living creatures. METRO NEWS SERVICES

A Canadian in London

Liane Balaban takes on life as a British tabloid reporter

IAN JOHNSTON
for Metro Canada

Playing a reporter at a British tabloid wasn't a complete stretch for Liane Balaban.

"I took journalism at Ryerson for a year," says the Toronto actress, who stars in the CBC miniseries Abroad. "I always wanted to be a writer from when I was very young. But I ended up wanting to do something else — acting."

In Abroad, Balaban plays Amy Pearce, an ambitious young Canadian writer who uses her connections to get a job at a high profile British tabloid. Unfortunately, the job proves less exciting than anticipated, as Amy is relegated to fetching tea and doing uncredited research for her editor.

Things change when, out of anger over a failed love affair and her crummy job, Amy pens a front page attack on all British males. That act makes her into a mini-celebrity, and only causes her more problems.

"I describe Amy Pearce as confident and ambitious but slightly lacking in the social department," says Balaban, who made her first acting splash in the 1999 indie hit New Waterford Girl.

"And after coming up against office politics, she has to learn to reassert and reinvent herself."

Based on the life of Globe and Mail columnist and series co-creator Leah McLaren — and shot in Toronto and England — Abroad is best described as a fish-out-of-water Sex In The City.

"She (McLaren) is a very interesting person and writer," says Balaban. "Very divisive in what she writes. She has her supporters and detractors. A real provocateur."

Should the two hour movie prove a hit, CBC is considering making it into a series that would focus on Amy's office and social life in London. "I'd love to be a part of that," she says. "I think the characters are interesting and the stories are endless."

Abroad airs Sunday night on CBC Television

Not that she needs the work. Balaban — who recently appeared as Dustin Hoffman's daughter in Last Chance Harvey — has a number of projects in the works.

She's also thrilled to have a film she stars in — The New Tenants — nominated for an Oscar for Best Live Action Short Film. (The film won its category at Sunday's award ceremony).

"It's so exciting to have something at stake for once," she laughs.

Liane Balaban, centre, stars as Amy Pearce in Abroad, with flatmates Poppy (Daisy Haggard) and Sammi (Noam Jenkins).

Luminato welcomes the world

UPCOMING Bruce Cockburn, Rufus Wainwright, Bela Fleck and two-time Academy Award nominee John Malkovich are among a diverse group of headliners who have been announced in the music program for this year's Luminato festival in Toronto.

Mali musician Bassekou Kouyate and Montreal banjo player Karim Saada will also perform at the fourth edition of the annual multi-disciplinary Toronto arts festival, which will run from June 11 to 20.

Toronto singer-songwriter Hawksley Workman and Margo Timmins of the Cowboy Junkies are among the musicians who will join Cockburn onstage at Massey Hall in a tribute to his extensive catalogue.

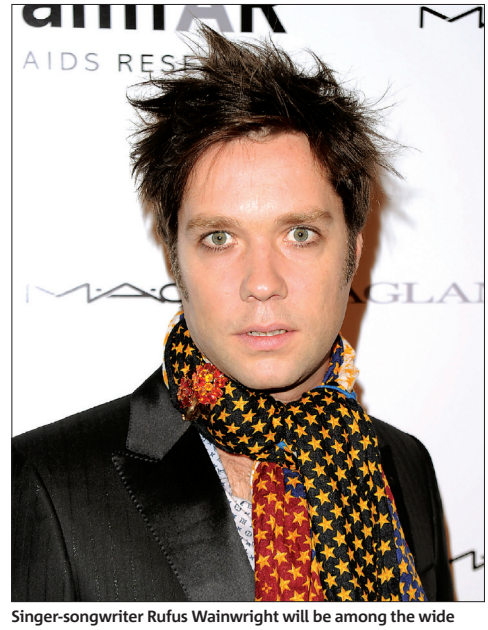
Wainwright's debut opera Prima Donna will have its previously announced North American bow during the festival, and the 36-year-old will also launch a solo tour with a show at the Elgin Theatre.

And Malkovich will take to the stage with a starring role as Austrian author and murderer Jack Unterweger in The Infernal Comedy: Confessions of a Serial Killer, a piece that will feature a series of monologues paired with operatic arias.

Fleck, Saada and Kouyate, meanwhile, will be featured during a free all-day concert at Queen's Park. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Star Lineup

- Bruce Cockburn
- Rufus Wainwright
- John Malkovich
- Bela Fleck
- Hawksley Workman
- Margo Timmins
- Bassekou Kouyate
- Karim Saada



Singer-songwriter Rufus Wainwright will be among the wide range of performers in Toronto this summer at Luminato.

CMW looks east to India

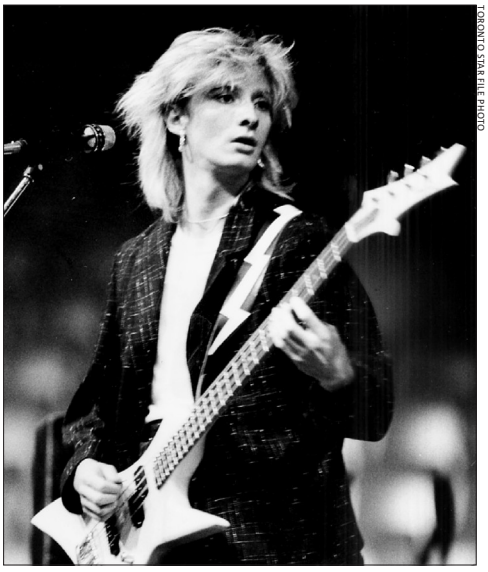
BRIAN TOWIE
Metro Canada

Canadian music labels are looking for a bigger piece of the pie, or whatever else might be cooking in the tandoor, and another Canadian Music Week may just show them how to do it.

Executives, bands and other professionals of the music industry will descend on Toronto for Canadian Music Week, the week-long showcase profiling more than 350 acts in 35 bars and clubs over three nights going from March 10-14. Some of the highlights of the convention include a special, one-night-only appearance by 1980s Canadian hair-rock group Platinum Blonde at the Mod Club tonight, as part of their induction into the Canadian Music and Broadcast Industry Hall of Fame.

Neill Dixon

But a special showcase going this year at CMW isn't so much about Canadian music as it is about the opportunities it has to expand abroad, to India in particular. As part of its Spotlight On India showcase, delegates will meet and greet with industry professionals from one of the world's fastest growing economies tomorrow and Friday at the Fairmont Royal York, and then see popular Indian acts at night (such as Farid Khan, Delhi 2 Dublin and The Kominas) at Revival on those nights.


TORONTO STAR FILE PHOTO

Mark Holmes, seen here in a 1984 concert, and his Platinum Blonde bandmates are playing a special one-night-only show at the Mod Club tonight as part of their induction into the Canadian Music and Broadcast Industry Hall of Fame.

"The convention is pretty much business-to-business," says CMW President Neill Dixon, "More recently in the last five years we've done international spotlights to speed up the process of promoting and marketing Canadian music in international markets."

For more on Canadian Music Week visit cmw.net

The Indian music business is quite developed in its own right, says Dixon, and continues to grow with the emergence of an educated, upwardly mobile and technologically savvy middle class. He adds that India's post-secondary school demographic dwarfs the entire population of Canada itself.

"There are 1.2 billion people in India," says Dixon. "And there are more people in college and university in any one year there than the entire population of Canada. It's a mindblower, and it's our target market at entry level. They're also very accessible in terms of language. They speak English, because of their British history, and they look to the West for the latest in fashion and music. So we have a vested interest in exporting development, and promoting reciprocal trade."

Canadian Music Week

Follow Metro Music's live coverage from Canadian Music Week: @TheMetroMusic

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THE BETTER WAY

Nicole's in charge

Earlier this week, Nicole Ritchie claimed Joel Madden has no say in their forthcoming nuptials. Now the Good Charlotte rocker has confirmed that, saying: "It's the same thing as our engagement, we're kind of doing it at our own pace." METRO NEWS SERVICE

Matthias Schweighoffer, left, and Til Schweiger in the story of fighter pilot The Red Baron.

The Red Baron's story is universal

Historic German epic, filmed in English

CHRIS ALEXANDER
for Metro Canada

Filled with epic sweeping and spectacular battle sequences, the 2008 First World War drama The Red Baron is finally getting some screen time in Canada.

The film stars Matthias Schweighoffer as the mythical titular fighter pilot, a German national hero who was as feared in the air as he was misunderstood on the ground.

Hiding amidst the supporting cast is actor Til Schweiger. A superstar in his native Germany, Schweiger is perhaps best known as the merciless Hugo Stiglitz in Quinton Tarantino's Inglourious Basterds.

In The Red Baron he plays Werner Voss, fellow pilot and friend to the Baron, a role that showcases his cruel, Teutonic good looks and steady screen presence.

And though the film uses the legend of the Baron to make a strong antiwar statement, Schweiger spoke to Metro about the surprising controversy it courted in its native country.

"In Germany, there is a heavy pressure to be as factual as possible," says the actor.

"But film is an impression. There would be no possible way to be 100 per cent accurate about the baron's life — it would be foolish to try. Ours is a version of the story, that is all."

The Red Baron is indeed a German film and — outside of a few British actors including Joseph Fiennes — features a completely German cast.

The Red Baron opens Friday

"In Germany, there is a heavy pressure to be as factual as possible."
Til Schweiger

And yet the producers chose to shoot the entire endeavor in English, a once popular move (think Doctor Zhivago) that is rarely done anymore.

"It made the most sense to film it in English," Schweiger says." It's a universal story of heroism and shouldn't just be relegated to a German market.

"This way, the film has broader appeal, can get more screen time and be seen by people who wouldn't otherwise bother with a subtitled film."

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evidently (toronto)

Daniel Radcliffe sidelined by food poisoning

Harry Potter star Daniel Radcliffe was hospitalized with food poisoning last week, reports Ireland On-line. He contracted a bug while in the U.S. and had to spend two days in a New York hospital being treated for dehydration. METRO NEWS SERVICE

Phantom sequel opens in London

Will the magic of the Phantom strike twice for Andrew Lloyd Webber?

The theatre world was eagerly awaiting yesterday's premiere in London of Love Never Dies, the sequel to Lloyd Webber's global hit The Phantom of the Opera.

Phantom is a tale of gothic romance set in the Paris Opera that has been seen by 100 million people around the world since its 1986 premiere. It is still playing in London and New York, where it is the longest running show in Broadway history.

Love Never Dies picks up the story 10 years on, with disfigured genius the Phantom relocated to the bright lights of New York's Coney Island and still besotted with beautiful soprano Christine Daae.

Many Phantom fans have trashed the show in internet reviews based on preview performances.

Some say the score has nothing to rival the earlier show's catchy, romantic ballads such as The Music of the Night and All I Ask of You, and the set design has come in for criticism.

Widely read theatre bloggers the West End Whingers dubbed the show "Paint Never Dries."

The professional critics will give their verdicts after yesterday's opening night at London's Adelphi Theatre.

Love Never Dies has been in the works for years and carries high expectations.

Composer Lloyd Webber has been developing the show since 1997. It is scheduled to open on Broadway in November, and in Australia next year.

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I just don't know who you are anymore

Katherine Heigl turned heads yesterday when she stepped out sporting brown, hair a far cry from her usual blonde — reports dailymail.co.uk. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Andy Richter may tour with Conan O'Brien

COMEDY Andy Richter says a tour with Conan O'Brien and Max Weinberg is "a possibility."

The Hollywood Reporter says the tour would start the middle of next month and could also involve O'Brien's bandleader, Max Weinberg.

Unlike O'Brien, who can't be on TV until September, Richter co-hosted Live With Regis and Kelly.

Richter says he's still under contract with NBC but he says he still is angry with the network for taking the Tonight Show away from him and O'Brien.

Referring to his string of failed TV projects, Richter says he must be "really good at getting kicked off the air."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GETTY IMAGES

Harry Smith will report live while having a colonoscopy.

Early Show anchor shares his insides

The Early Show co-anchor Harry Smith is scheduled to have a colonoscopy today, with live reports as he undergoes the procedure at a New York hospital.

CBS says it will be the first time an anchor has had a colonoscopy live on network television.

CBS Evening News anchor Katie Couric plans to be with Smith as he prepares for the procedure.

Smith and Couric are recognizing National Colorectal Cancer Awareness month. Couric has been an advocate for early cancer screenings since her husband, TV legal analyst Jay Monahan, died of colon cancer 12 years ago. He was 42.

Taped reports of Couric's colonoscopy aired in 2000.

The Early Show airs weekdays from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. Eastern.

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TO	Vu	SD	C		7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 3/10/10	265	353	2	TVO	Meerkat Manor	Meerkat Manor	The Agenda With Steve Paikin		The Fixer (Part 4 of 6)		The View From Here		Agenda-Paikin
	211	331	3	GTV	Entertainment	ET Canada	Bones		Kitchen Nightmares (N)		Melrose Place "Oriole"		News Hour
	215	343	4	OMN1	Two/Half Men	The Office	Omni News: Italian Edition (N)		Vivere V	Omni News:	Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Metropia
	210	302	6	CBC	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Dragons' Den (HDTV) (N)		Republic of Doyle (DVS)		CBC News: The National		The Hour
	214	344	7	CITY	Law & Order: Special Victims		Mercy "I'm Fine" (N)		Modern Family	Cougar Town	(10:01) Ugly Betty (N)		News
	212	313	8	CTV	etalk	Access H.	Criminal Minds (N)		American Idol		CSI: NY "Pot of Gold"		CTV News
	218	345	11	CHCH	*The Adventures of Buckaroo Banzai* (1984)			*RoboCop* ★★★ (1987, Science Fiction) Peter Weller, Nancy Allen, Ronny Cox.					News at 11 (N)
	-	-	14	-	Family Guy	The Simpsons	Omni News: S. Asian Edition		Omni News: Cantonese Edition		Two/Half Men	King/Queens	Cold Case
	213	326	15	SUN	George Lopez	The Insider (N)	*The Darklings* ★★ (1999, Mystery) Ryan de Boer.				The Insider	Hitchcock Pres	Becker
	-	387	16	CBS	Inside Edition	Access H.	Old Christine	Unmarried	Criminal Minds (N)		CSI: NY "Pot of Gold"		News 4 at 11
	-	385	17	NBC	Entertainment	The Insider (N)	Mercy "I'm Fine" (N)		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: Special Victims		News
	-	386	18	ABC	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Scrubs	The Middle (N)	Modern Family	Cougar Town	(10:01) Ugly Betty (N)		News
	219	346	20	ACH-B	Degrassi	TMZ (N)	America's Next Top Model (N)			Look-A-Like	The Listener		A News
	-	-	28	FOX	Judge Judy (N)	Two/Half Men	Human Target (N)		American Idol		Seinfeld	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons
	-	388	61	PBS	PBS NewsHour	Wait for God	Celtic Thunder: It's Entertainment			The 5 Browns in Concert Five siblings perform.			Business Rpt.
	297	652	330	WPX	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	America's Next Top Model (N)			High Society	PIX News at Ten Tong.		Two/Half Men
	296	654	331	SBK	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Law & Order: Special Victims		WBZ News (N)	What's-Store	Frasier	Frasier	The Office
	298	653	332	TLA	The Tyra Show		According-Jim	Family Guy	KTLA News	KTLA News	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Top Model
news	502	390	26	NW	The Lang & O'Leary Exchange		Connect with Mark Kelley (N)		CBC News: The National		Geologic Journey		National
	500	500	33	CNN	Situation Room-Wolf Blitzer		Campbell Brown (N)		Larry King Live (N)		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)		
	509	504	79	CNB	Kudlow Report (Live)		American Greed		American Greed (N)		American Greed		Mad Money
sports	405	417	22	net	UFC Primetime	UEFA Champions League Soccer Real Madrid vs. Lyon.					Sportsnet Connected		Hockey Central
	400	400	30	TSN	(6:30) Curling 2010 Tim Hortons Brier, Draw 14. (HDTV) From Halifax. (Live)					SportsCentre	NHL Hockey: Canucks at Coyotes		
	411	457	58	OLN	Ghost Hunters Academy		Destination Truth		Oper. Repo	Oper. Repo	Ghost Hunters Academy		Destin. Truth
	417	406	81	SC	NASCAR	NASCAR Hub	Racing Chef	NASCAR	Dangerous Drives (HDTV) (N)		Pass Time (N)	Pass Time (N)	Pass Time
family	551	542	25	YTV	iCarly	That's-Weird	Malcolm-Mid.	Hates Chris	8 Simple Rules	What I Like	Family Biz	To Be Indie	Prank Patrol
	554	544	45	TEL	Johnny Test	Total Drama	Total Drama	6TEEN	Futurama	King of the Hill	American Dad	Futurama	Robot Chicken
	556	540	51	FAM	Sonny Chance	Suite Life	Overruled!	Han. Montana	Wizards-Place	Latest Buzz	Ned's School	Cory in House	That's-Raven
cable variety	602	567	27	W	Supernanny		Grocery Bag	Grocery Bag	Grocery Bag	The Restaurant	*Human Trafficking* ★★ (2005, Crime Drama)		
	570	580	29	MM	Make It or Break It		disBAND	Video on Trial	Video on Trial	My Date With...	Degrassi: Next	Degrassi: Next	UR11
	615	520	31	A&E	Dog the Bounty Hunter		Bounty Hunter	Dog the Bounty Hunter		Dog the Bounty Hunter		Exterminator	Exterminator
	700	800	35	TLN	Centrovetrine	Sky TG 24	Mogli a Pezzi				George Lopez	George Lopez	Lopez Tonight
	571	581	36	MMM	The Daily Fix		Ranked!		mmtop10.ca		Gene Simmons	G. Simmons	Gene Simmons
	575	583	38	CMT	Carrie Underwood One on One		Inv.: Carrie Underwood		According-Jim	According-Jim	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Due South
	616	521	39	SHO	Relic Hunter		*Wide Awake* (2007, Drama) Missy Peregrym.				HawthoRNe (HDTV) (N)		NCIS
	620	523	40	BVO	Death at-Opera	Bravo!Videos	Arts & Minds	O'Reagan File	Wingfield	Star Portraits	White Collar		Law & Order
	601	562	41	SLC	Rich Bride Poor Bride		End of Leash	End of Leash	End/Leash	End of Leash	End of Leash	End of Leash	ET Canada
	522	506	43	HIS	Ice Pilots NWT (HDTV)		Nostradamus Effect (HDTV) (N)		Ice Road Truckers		Ice Pilots NWT (HDTV)		Re-Inventors
	625	548	44	COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	South Park	Lucky Louie	Hot Box	Daily Show
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	294	529	47	TBS	Family Guy	Family Guy	Law & Order: Special Victims		SEC Tournament Preview		Seinfeld	Name Is Earl	*Catch Me-Can*
	576	582	49	BET	106 & Park	Movie Special	*Brown Sugar* ★★ (2002, Romance-Comedy) Taye Diggs, Sanaa Lathan.					Family Crews	Mo'Nique
	627	528	50	SPC	Stargate Atlantis (DVS)		Star Trek: Voyager		Chuck (HDTV) (N)		Supernatural		InnerSpace (N)
	581	566	52	MTV	Peak Season	Cribs	Cribs	Parent Control	The Real World		The Real World (N)		Real World
	618	524	54	TROP	Rescue Ink		Hoarders		Hoarders		Parking Wars	Parking Wars	Spoiled Rotten
	603	561	56	FOOD	Ricardo	Fresh-Anna	Challenge		Iron Chef America		Chopped		Restaurant
	261	394	60	V	Murder, She Wrote		No Place Like	Open All Hours	*Doc Martin and the Legend of the Cloutie* (2003)				Poltergeist
	621	527	63	STR	Look-A-Like	TMZ	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)		The View (HDTV) (N)		The Dr. Oz Show (HDTV)		TMZ
	553	546	65	TRE	Backyardigans	Night Garden	Waybuloo	Max & Ruby	Franklin	Bucket-Dinos	Little Bear	Toopy & Binoo	Max & Ruby
	526	507	249	VIVA	Cold Case		Missing "John Doe"		The Closer "Dumb Luck"		Cold Case		Mediums
	300	601	301	M1	*Imagine That* ★★ (2009, Comedy) Eddie Murphy.				*Paul Blart: Mall Cop* ★★ (2009, Comedy)			(10:35) *Year One* ★★	
	305	612	306	PIX	(7:15) *Wicked Minds* (2002, Suspense) Angie Everhart.				*Cube* ★★ (1997, Science Fiction)			(10:40) *Fast Company*	
	520	146	-	DISC	Daily Planet (N)		The Colony (N)		Howe & Howe Tech (N)		Solving History-Olly Steeds		Daily Planet
	637	-	-	TVLND	Red Green	Red Green	Fantasy Island		Hart to Hart		Andy Griffith	Phil Silvers	Bizarre
	605	-	-	FASH	(6) *Lagerfeld Confidential*		FashionTele	RAW	FT Found Footage		LG Fashion Week		

Boobie bed

Sharon Osbourne is having buyer's remorse over her breast augmentation surgery. "I wish I had never had my breasts done," Osbourne tells New! Magazine. "It is like a waterbed on your chest. I want to have the bags taken out — then I will put them on eBay." METRO NEWS SERVICE

Celebrity Buzz

The Cowell's out of the bag

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST TO MARRY ... SOMETIME IN THE NEXT DECADE He's famed for his caustic put-downs on American Idol and The X Factor, but Simon Cowell showed a very different side to his personality as he shared a kiss with fiancée Mezhgan Hussainy on the Tonight Show, reports dailymail.co.uk.

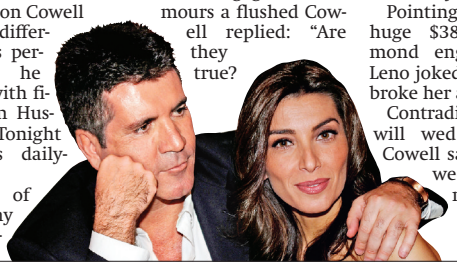
After weeks of trying to deny their engagement, the 50-year-old finally confirmed the couple is getting married.

When asked by Jay Leno about the engagement rumours a flushed Cowell replied: "Are they true? Well, I do have somebody in my life now, Jay, yes. And I kinda made a decision this year to make somebody happy."

Pointing out Hussainy's huge $385,000 US diamond engagement ring, Leno joked: "I thought she broke her arm."

Contradicting reports he will wed this summer, Cowell said he wanted a wedding "in the next 10 years."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Jermaine to pay his respects

BY ARRANGING A MASSIVE MONEY-MAKING TRIBUTE Despite previous failed attempts since his brother's death last June, Jermaine Jackson is committed to pulling off a massive tribute to Michael Jackson, and he wants it up before the anniversary, he tells Australia's Undercover.com.

"The best way and most suitable way is to assemble the world's largest tribute in history that is only fitting to a man who moved the hearts and souls of an unimaginable amount," Jermaine says of the planned show, which will be called Tribute by Jermaine. He's reportedly already booked London's Wembley Arena for June 8.

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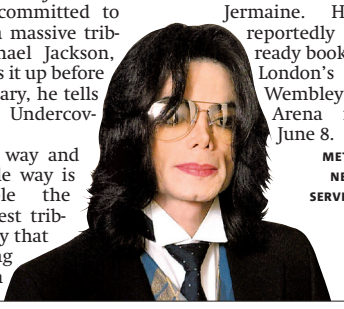


Will she Mulligan LaBeouf?

TALENT ATTRACTS TALENT ... BUT WHO WILL IT BE? After frequently bumping into each other on the awards circuit, it's no surprise that Oscar nominees Carey Mulligan and Jeremy Renner have struck up a friendship.

The actors were looking very cozy together as they partied at the Vanity Fair after-party on Sunday night, reports dailymail.co.uk.

The Bafta winner, 24, and The Hurt Locker star, 39, were spotted deep in conversation and being very tactile with each other as they openly flirted.

The pictures of the friendly pair are unlikely to go down well with Mulligan's actor boyfriend Shia LaBeouf, who was surprisingly absent at the Academy Awards.

Mulligan has been dating LaBeouf since August after they fell for each other on the set of Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps.

LaBeouf was seen accompanying her to JFK airport, prompting speculation he would be joining her in Los Angeles ahead of the weekend's festivities.

Instead, Mulligan arrived on the red carpet at the Kodak Theatre with her mom Nano, while Renner brought his mother Valerie.

Renner has recently been linked to newly single beauty Charlize Theron, but he insists they're just friends.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Arguing over spilt milk

SHE'S SUCH A BABY! (HA) Lindsay Lohan is reportedly suing financial services company E-Trade over a new commercial she thinks is mocking her, according to Page Six.

The ad features a boyfriend-stealing, "milkoholic" baby named Lindsay, and Lohan alleges it was modeled after her.

Lohan's lawyer argues that the actress has the same single-name recognition as Madonna or Oprah.

"Many celebrities are known by one name only, and E-Trade is using that knowledge to profit," her lawyer says. Lohan is reportedly after $100 million US over the ad.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Mom gives the thumbs up

WONDER WHAT SHE THOUGHT OF CAMERON ... The news that Justin Timberlake is to star in a romantic comedy, Bad Teacher, with his ex Cameron Diaz is bound to have annoyed girlfriend Jessica Biel.

The 37-year-old Charlie's Angels star plays a junior high school teacher who sets out to steal a colleague's boyfriend, played by Timberlake.

She dated the pop singer for almost four years until they split in 2007.

At the Oscars, she told reporters: "He's clearly a very talented comedian, look at his Saturday Night Live (skit). He's fantastic. He's going to be so great."

But it seems Jessica has nothing to worry about just yet, as Justin's mother Lynn Timberlake thinks she could be The One. Describing the Valentine's Day actress as "amazing" and "one of us," she added: "She's so down-to-earth and her family is great."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Tiger released back into society

HIS SOCIAL REINTEGRATION SEEMS TO BE GOING WELL The reconciliation between Tiger Woods and Elin Nordegren appears to be working, as the couple was spotted kissing earlier this week in Florida, according to Radar Online.

"They were hugging and they were kissing right out in the open," a source tells the website.

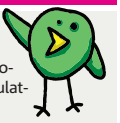
"Elin is certainly a lot more relaxed these days and so is he. People in the neighbourhood are getting used to seeing them together again."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

GETTY IMAGES

Follow these celebrities on Twitter...

CelebTweets



Today, **JESSICA SIMPSON** doesn't find poetry that stimulating, **APOLO OHNO** is hungry, **RAINN WILSON** takes a page from an Oscar winner's book, and **JOE JONAS** doesn't like all the attention.

@JessicaSimpson
Just woke up after falling asleep reading this book "poemcrazy"! Poems that are crazy normally keep me awake!

@ApoloOhno
Friends of Chi-Town...if we get a small break today- where is a quick lunch spot?

@rainnwilson
Like Mo'nique Ive decided to add an apostrophe to my name. Sincerely, Ra'inn.

@joejonas
So there was a paparazzi filming me eating. Akward. I see the headline now.. "Joe eats food"

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Taking it too far just once

ADMIT IT, YOU ALL ASSUMED HE WAS TOO With her Oscar specials over, Barbara Walters is taking a look back and says she only has one real regret — pressing Ricky Martin about his sexuality.

"In 2000, I pushed Ricky Martin very hard to admit if he was gay or not, and the way he refused to do it made everyone decide that he was," she tells the Toronto Star.

"A lot of people say that destroyed his career, and when I think back on it now, I feel it was an inappropriate question."

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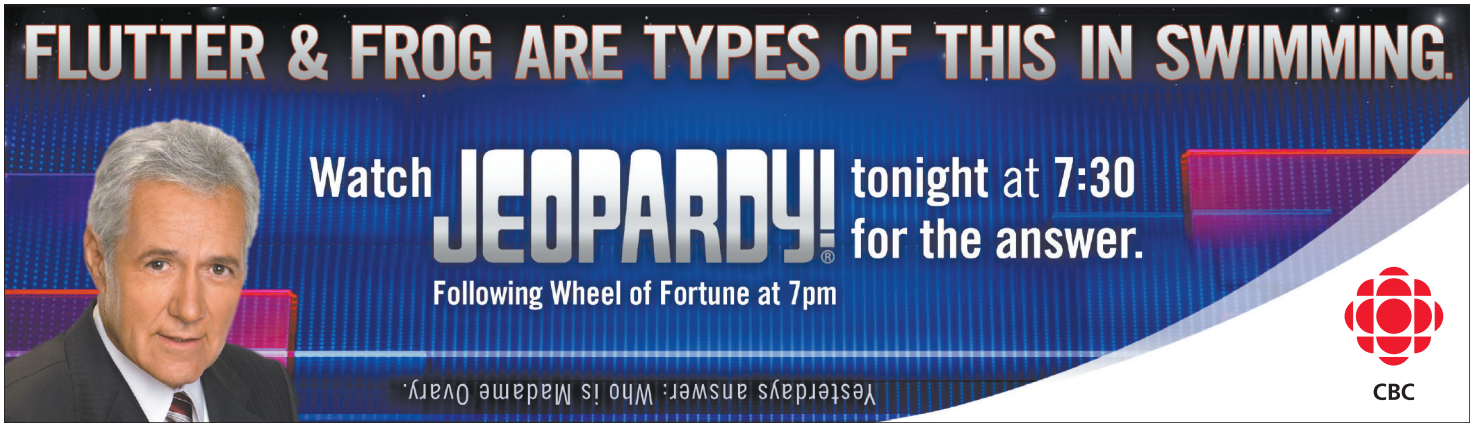

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Today Variable 9°/ 3° | Thursday Variable 9° / 7° | Friday Showers 60% 10°/ 5°

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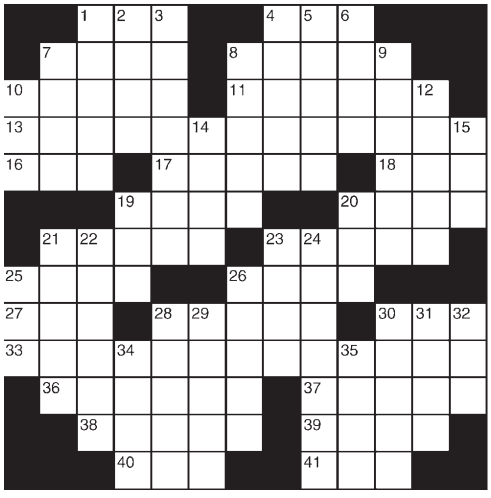
Take Five

For more delicious Metro recipes, visit: **metronews.ca/food**



ACROSS

1 Dog's ID
4 Atlas component
7 Toothpaste container
8 Mosaicist
10 Young hooter
11 Preambles, briefly
13 Family tree member
16 "CSI" find
17 Cardiff's country
18 Writer Levin
19 Senate employee
20 Retain
21 Strong wagons
23 Dens
25 Night light?
26 Bankruptcy cause
27 Lennon's lady
28 Alpha's opposite
30 Eggs
33 Couch potato's handful
36 Nightclub
37 Southerner's speech trait
38 "In Memoriam," e.g.
39 On the — (at variance)
40 Raw rock
41 Born

DOWN

1 Oklahoma city
2 Help in wrongdoing
3 Flee
4 Chop finely
5 Some choristers
6 Lima's land
7 Doppelganger
8 Championship
9 More optimistic
10 Peculiar
12 Begets
14 Run-down horses
15 Siesta
19 Zero-star review
20 DIY purchase
21 Bright star in Cygnus
22 Rent contributor
23 Building-block name
24 Leave in the lurch
25 Postal Creed word
26 Fake duck
28 Playful water critter
29 Combine, traffic-wise
30 Give a speech
31 Wedding exchange
32 Every iota
34 Norway's capital
35 Authentic

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

3	4						6	2
	7			9			1	
		8	3		1	4		
			5		7			
9								8
			8		9			
		3	6		2	7		
	5			1			4	
6	2						3	5

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

S	T	A	N	■	M	A	Y	■
T	Y	R	O	■	E	G	O	■
A	K	I	N	■	D	O	U	G
R	E	D	F	L	A	G	■	M
■	■	■	A	I	L	■	Y	A
E	L	A	T	E	■	J	A	C
T	E	D	■	■	J	A	M	■
C	A	S	H	C	O	W	■	N
■	■	■	E	O	N	■	W	O
O	U	N	C	E	■	V	A	R
B	R	E	A	D	B	O	X	■
O	A	S	T	■	A	L	E	■
E	L	S	E	■	M	E	N	■

M	O	S	S					
O	R	C	A					
H	B	O	Y					
A	S	T	S					
■	■	■	■					
A	S	S						
N	E	O						
A	T	A	L					
■	■	■	■					
I	S	H						
R	E	A						
L	O	T	S					
S	N	A	P					

6	8	2	1	4	5	9	7	3
5	7	9	6	2	3	4	8	1
3	4	1	7	8	9	2	5	6
8	6	7	5	9	4	3	1	2
9	2	3	8	1	6	7	4	5
1	5	4	3	7	2	6	9	8
2	1	8	4	3	7	5	6	9
7	9	5	2	6	8	1	3	4
4	3	6	9	5	1	8	2	7

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca

Metro Recipe of the Day

Spicy Napolitana Spaghetti

INGREDIENTS:

2 tbsp olive oil
1 large onion, finely chopped
A pinch white sugar
2 x 398-mL cans tomatoes
1/4 tsp crushed chili flakes
400 g spaghetti
450 g jar roasted red or mixed peppers, drained and sliced
3/4 cup stuffed green olives, rinsed, drained and halved

METHOD:

1. Heat oil in medium-sized pot, add onion and sugar, then cook gently 5 minutes. Meanwhile, tip tomatoes into food processor and whiz to make purée.

2. Add puréed tomatoes and crushed chili flakes to onion in pot and season lightly with salt and plenty of pepper. Bring to boil, then cook, stirring occasionally, over medium heat 20 minutes.

3. While sauce is cooking, cook spaghetti in pot of salted boiling water according to package instructions.

4. Drain pasta and turn into warmed serving bowl. Spoon sauce over, add peppers and olives, and toss gently to combine. Serve immediately with Parmesan.

SERVES 4

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
You will be confronted by a situation that demands an instant response. No one has the right to interfere in your personal affairs.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
You may be more receptive than usual to out of the ordinary ideas but you must also be careful that you do not come across as too trusting.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
If you can't come up with the money you need today it could lead to a showdown with those who hold the purse strings. Try to become financially independent.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
The Sun in Pisces is a helpful influence but it also brings obligations you cannot avoid. Today's aspects are about power and responsibility.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
You are impatient to get started on things you have been thinking about for months, and with Mars turning direct in your sign you won't have to wait long.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
You won't be in the most forgiving of moods today, especially if you are still annoyed with someone who has betrayed you.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
A positive outlook is a must. Like it or not someone who is better connected has the upper hand at the moment, but it won't stay that way forever.

SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22
While your confidence is high, other aspects suggest that some people still need convincing you have what it takes to succeed.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21
Your best course today is to be open and honest about the way that you feel – and then to resolve to do something about it.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
You can't help but be a bit emotional and in a way that's good because you have been hiding your feelings for too long. Just don't get too sentimental.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
If you allow things to slide today you will be struggling to catch up for the rest of the week, so stay on top of your workload.

PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Everyone wants to be your friend, but that does not mean everyone is entitled to a free ride at your expense. Help out but don't be a sucker.

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Clean Energy • Apprenticeship Completion Grant

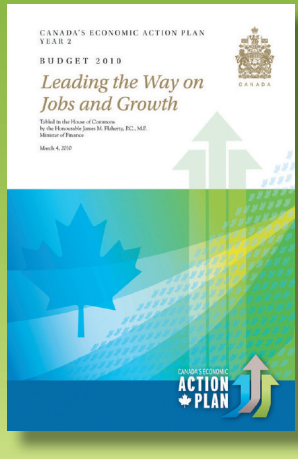
Rebuilding Transportation Infrastructure

Strengthening Business through Innovation • Genomics

Rural Development • Space Technology • Increased EI Benefits

• Robotics

JOBS & GROWTH



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2010 KIA SPORTAGE LX

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Crash Test Rating NHTSA - Frontal impacts*

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2010 KIA RIO

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HWY: 5.8 L/100KM 49 MPG CITY: 7.1 L/100KM 40 MPG

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2010 KIA SOUL

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- Power locks, windows and heated mirrors

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HWY: 6.3 L/100KM 45 MPG CITY: 7.7 L/100KM 37 MPG

Crash Test Rating NHTSA - Frontal impacts*

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2010 KIA FORTE

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- Power locks, windows and heated mirrors

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HWY: 5.8 L/100KM 49 MPG CITY: 8.3 L/100KM 34 MPG

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